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EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Mahomedan rebellion in the North-west appears to be making serious headway.

It is announced that Sir Nicholas O'Connor, the present Minister at Peking, has been appointed to St. Petersburg.

The British barque *Satsuma* was wrecked on the coast of North Chusan on the 6th inst. during a typhoon. No loss of life occurred. The vessel was on a voyage from Nagasaki to Shanghai.

It was recently stated that the Rev. W. W. Cassells had been appointed successor to Bishop Moule in the missionary diocese of Mid-China. This, it appears, was a mistake. The Archbishop of Canterbury has approved the nomination by the C. M. S. of the Rev. W. W. Cassells for the Missionary Bishopric in Western China (Szechuen). Mr. Cassells was one of the "Cambridge Seven" who went out under the auspices of the China Inland Mission.

A Peking telegram of the 9th inst. to the *N. C. Daily News* says:—The anti-Li party has scored another triumph. To prevent the Prime Minister from using his influence with the Emperor and Dowager-Empress, the enemies of Li Hung-chang have succeeded in getting the Emperor to decree that in future he is not to memorialise the Throne alone, but must do so conjointly with some other person of corresponding rank. In this way the anti-Li party will be able to learn all the Prime Minister's projects and intentions.

On Sunday afternoon last as a party of Europeans, including ladies, who had been on a visit to Kowloon city, were leaving the wharf in their steam launch they were stoned by a gang of gambling rowdies, who were disappointed at not being allowed to take passage in the launch. One lady received a severe blow on the head. On Monday morning official complaints were made and one of the ringleaders was arrested. The culprit was tried yesterday and was awarded two hundred blows with the bamboo, after which he was placed in the cangue.

In the suite of H.E. Yü Keng, Chinese Envoy to the Court of Tokyo, there are, the *N. C. Daily News* says, two military attaches, Lieutenant Fêng Kuochang and Pei Ch'ih-suen, graduates of high standing in the Tientsin Military Academy. These appointments speak well for the liberal views of the Envoy, who would only appoint qualified officers to this important post and who is reported to have refused several candidates for the military attaches' posts whose only recommendations and title to recognition were, as in former times, their family influence.

The result of the experiments on the newly discovered cure of cholera patients by venesection, made by Dr. Kitazato at his hospital at Hiroo, is published, we learn from the *Japan Gazette*. The new method as well as the ordinary methods have been pursued for the sake of comparison. The following figures refer to a period from the 7th to 24th August:—By the venesection cure, of 24 patients 5 recovered, 4 died, 15 are improving; by ordinary treatment, of 21 patients 1 recovered, 15 died, 5 are improving. From these it will be seen that the result is in favour of the new method.

A Madrid telegram to the *Comerico* states that the project of a railway from Manila to Subic has been approved by the Spanish Government. A dock is also to be constructed at the latter port.

An American Commission has been appointed to inquire into the anti-foreign disturbances in Szechuen. It is to consist of Consul Read, of Tientsin, an American naval officer, and an American missionary.

Another check has occurred in the work of the Kucheng Commission. The Viceroy declines to have any executions carried out until he is assured that no further claims will be brought. The Consuls are awaiting instructions.

Detailed reports have now been received of the loss of the E. & A. steamer *Catterthun*, which occurred on the 8th August, shortly after leaving Sydney for Hongkong. She struck on a rock off the Seals, Sugar Loaf Point. At the inquest held on the bodies recovered the verdict was that the ship was wrongly navigated. A Marine Court of Inquiry is to be held.

We translate the following from the *Courrier d'Haiphong*:—We yesterday received at our office a visit from Suleman bin Davood, Prefect of Lingnan, Yunnan. Suleman bin Davood, or Ma Fok according to his Chinese name, is the ninth son of Marshal Ma, well known in the history of Tonkin, he who ordered from Jean Dupuis the arms which were conveyed by the Red River. A Mahomedan, like most of the inhabitants of his province, Suleman bin Davood has been to Constantinople, where he has made rather a long stay, to study Western manners and civilization, to familiarize himself with our science and our progress, and to obtain a complete knowledge of the rites of the Koran. He has just returned, having visited on the way Egypt and India. One of his nephews who accompanied him to Constantinople returned to Yunnan by way of Burmah. Suleman bin Davood is returning through Tonkin. He was charmed with his visit to Europe, about which he is quite enthusiastic. He is far from possessing the spirit of exclusivism so characteristic of his countrymen.

A Fire Insurance Company is being started at Haiphong under the name of "L'Indo-Chinoise." The capital is to be a million francs, part of which will be offered for subscription locally and part in France. The Company proposes to commence business about the middle of next year. Amongst other reasons for the formation of the Company pointed out by the promoter is the following:—"It follows that a large amount of capital, represented by the premiums paid by insurers in Indo-China, every year goes into the pockets of our neighbours, to the great detriment of our colony, which might reserve the benefit to itself. If anyone wishes to know the importance of this capital it is sufficient to state that in Tonkin alone the premiums paid every year to English or German companies exceed \$60,000. In this calculation no account is taken of Cochinchina, Cambodia, and Annam, for which we have not the figures, but the total contribution of Indo-China to foreign companies ought to be at least treble the amount stated. Account must be taken, it is true, of the losses payable by the companies, but in Tonkin these have not exceeded \$30,000 during the last ten years, or an average of \$3,000 a year."

BIRTH.

At Shanghai, on the 14th inst., the wife of GUSTAV MELCHERS, of a daughter. [1951]

MARRIAGES.

On Friday, the 6th of September, 1895, at Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General, and afterwards on Sunday, the 8th September, at the Synagogue "Beth El," Shanghai, JUDAH JOSEPH JUDAH, to LEA HELENE HORWITZ, both of Shanghai.

On Saturday, the 7th September, 1895, at the St. Joseph's Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. A. Colombel, JOHN HALVERSEN, to HENRIETTA, second daughter of JOHN and MARY JUSTER, of Hongkong.

DEATHS.

At Glasgow, on the 2nd August, ROBERT CRAIG, late of Amoy and Swatow. [1922]

At sea, on board Pilot Cutter *Syren*, on the 7th of September, 1895, CHARLES N. VINCENT, Lower Yangtze Pilot, aged 50 years.

At Shanghai, on the 8th of September, 1895, ALEXANDER MACCALLUM, of Messrs. Boyd & Co., Limited, aged 49 years.

At Yokohama, on the 8th September, at his residence, No. 247, Bluff, CHARLES JUBIN, in his 56th year.

At Chefoo, on the 10th of September, 1895, ELIZABETH, the beloved wife of WALTER SCOTT EMENS, of Shanghai.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French Mail of the 16th August arrived, per M. M. steamer *Oceanien*, on the 17th September (32 days); and the Canadian Mail of the 27th August arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 17th September (21 days).

THE KUCHENG COMMISSION.

The interruption of the proceedings of the Kucheng Commission, caused by the insolence and duplicity of the Chinese officials, ought to bring the whole degrading farce to an end. It ought never to have been entered on, and now that an opportunity presents itself of getting out of it with dignity it is to be hoped it will be promptly availed of. Had a force of five hundred men been sent up from Hongkong to raze the city of Kucheng to the ground and to bring back the Viceroy and one or two other high officials for detention here until full satisfaction was accorded by the Chinese Government the measure would have proved effective and would have been unattended by any humiliation of the British name. Instead of that the Consul is sent up to be present at the trial of the persons accused of having committed the murders at Hwasang, to witness their tortures, and to make himself and his Government *particeps criminis* in the barbaric proceedings of a Chinese criminal court. No greater mistake was ever made. The party to be dealt with is the Chinese Government, not the miserable wretches who are the pawns with which the high officials play their game of murder, treachery, and deceit. However, Mr. MANSFIELD and his American colleague went up to Kucheng and were at first met with a statement that they could not be permitted to be present at the trials. After some negotiation that point was conceded and they were graciously accorded entrance to the torture chamber. Now comes a second check. The Chinese authorities refuse to carry out any executions unless the foreign representatives will accept the coolies' heads as payment in full discharge of all obligations in the matter. The foreign representatives decline, and are, as usual, awaiting instructions.

England does not, or ought not, to entertain any desire for the coolies' heads. It is the duty of the Chinese Government to deal with its own criminal classes and it should be left to do so in its own way. It is the Chinese Government itself that is responsible to the British Government and it ought not to be allowed to shift its responsibilities on to the shoulders of a few ignorant wretches, however vicious, who confess under the influence of torture. A foul massacre has been committed for which the Chinese Government must be held accountable and for which England demands atonement. The idea of accepting blood money has everywhere been treated with detestation, all the public meetings that have been held having expressed themselves strongly on that point. That the actual murderers should be punished, although they may have been mere tools in the hands of others, is of course agreed, but that is not the main point to be insisted upon. It is the Chinese Government that is at bottom responsible for the whole business; previous outrages on foreigners have been allowed to go unpunished and have been treated in such a way as to lead the people to believe—and the belief was well founded—that such affairs were really pleasing to the mandarins and the Government. If any permanent good is to be effected it can only be by inflicting such punishment as will be felt by the Government, and that can never be done by exacting a mere money payment or a few coolies' heads. The only thing that can really touch the Government is to compel the surrender of territory; that touches them to the quick and that is what should be insisted upon.

Hongkong requires a rectification of its frontiers and the present is an opportune time to effect it. The desirability of the acquisition

of a strip of territory to give us command of both sides of the Lyceemoo Pass and the range of hills commanding the colony from Kowloon has already been recognised by the home Government, but at the time the matter was last discussed it was held there was no ground on which the concession could be asked for. A crisis has now arrived when the territory may advantageously be taken, not as a friendly concession, but as a surrender enforced in atonement of a most flagitious crime. It is not a case for argument or negotiation. Let the territory be formally occupied and the Chinese Government be informed that it is taken in satisfaction of the Kucheng affair. It would be a stain on the national honour to allow the Consul to be any longer concerned in the trials at Kucheng. The Chinese Government may be left to deal with its criminals in its own way, which will not be a very gentle way if their crime is found to have led to the loss of territory, nor will the ignorant coolies be the only sufferers. As to monetary compensation to those injured in the Kucheng attack and to the families of those who were killed, that is a responsibility that might reasonably be taken over by the British Government as one of the conditions attaching to the suggested transfer of territory. The acceptance of blood money should henceforth be in all cases resolutely declined. It is the way in which the Chinese like to settle up affairs, but there is disgrace attaching to the acceptance of that kind of money. Where property has been destroyed, as in the case of the Szechuen riots, the Chinese Government may fairly be called upon to restore it or to pay the bill for its restoration, but where it is a case of loss of life occurring under such circumstances as to fix the Chinese Government with criminal responsibility no opportunity ought to be afforded them to compound for their guilt by a monetary payment. As a penalty for the Kucheng massacre the territory required by Hongkong may reasonably be taken, with an intimation to the Chinese that any future outrages of a similar character will be followed by further annexations. If the city of Foochow were occupied, as has been suggested, it would naturally bring the matter more closely home to those immediately concerned in the outrage, but England does not want the city of Foochow, and it is the Chinese Government that pressure has to be brought to bear upon. For that purpose a compulsory cession of territory, although the territory ceded be in another province, is the most effective means that could be adopted.

SIR NICHOLAS O'CONOR.

The announcement of the promotion of Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR from the Legation at Peking to that at St. Petersburg comes as a surprise. Sir NICHOLAS joined the diplomatic service in 1866, and having served at various European and American capitals was promoted to be Secretary of Legation at Peking at the end of 1883, and was Acting Chargé d'Affaires from March, 1885, to July, 1886. He was then transferred to Washington, and was afterwards appointed Agent and Consul-General in Bulgaria. On the transfer of Sir JOHN WALSHAM from Peking in 1892 Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR was appointed to succeed him. He has now been appointed to St. Petersburg, one of the plums of the service, the salary there being £7,800 per annum, as against £5,000 at Peking. What he has

done to deserve promotion is not apparent to the outside world. When he was Chargé d'Affaires at Peking in 1886 he signed the Burmah Convention, by which it was agreed that the decennial tribute mission from Burmah to China should be continued. How far he was bound by his instructions in that case, or whether he exhausted his influence to induce the Foreign Office to refrain from making such an undignified concession, we do not know, but it certainly reflects no credit on a man to have his name attached to such a humiliating agreement. Notwithstanding this, however, Sir NICHOLAS appears to have created a favourable impression on all who have been brought into personal contact with him, an impression that he was a man with some force of character and a keen intellect, and when it was announced that he was about to return to Peking as Minister general satisfaction was felt. The result has been a complete disappointment. During the last three years British interests at Peking cannot be said to have been advanced in the slightest degree; on the contrary, in the crisis following upon the war with Japan the influence of Great Britain with the Chinese Government was completely eclipsed by that of other powers. Nor has the Minister appeared to any greater advantage in connection with the demands for reparation for the recent anti-foreign outrages. Where strong and prompt action was required we have had orders for inquiries and reports. It is sometimes urged in extenuation of the inaction of the British representatives abroad that they are bound by the instructions of the Foreign Office and have no liberty of action allowed them. The excuse is a paltry one. When a Minister is a really strong man he will impress his views on the Foreign Office and assist in moulding its policy; a weak and timid man, on the other hand, may evade responsibility by refraining from making suggestions of his own and holding fast to the letter of his instructions. We would not like, on the evidence before us, to class Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR as a weak or timid man, but in his work he has certainly given no indication of strength or originality, so far as can be judged from the outside. The Foreign Office, however, may be justified in holding him in high favour, and there may be special reasons for his transfer to St. Petersburg at the present juncture; with the Far Eastern question forcing itself so prominently to the front—a question in which Great Britain and Russia are so vitally interested—it may be deemed desirable that England should be represented at St. Petersburg by a Minister who has had the opportunity of making himself acquainted with that question on the spot. Sir NICHOLAS has had that opportunity, and under most favourable circumstances.

SIR ROBERT HART.

The fact that China's indemnity loan has been given to Russia instead of being negotiated through Sir ROBERT HART tends to direct attention to the position occupied by the Inspector-General at Peking. No man has ever served his employers better than Sir ROBERT HART has served the Peking Government. Possessed of indefatigable industry and a splendid talent for organisation he has brought the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service to a pitch of perfection that excites universal admiration. The Chinese are believed to have appreciated his services; at all events they have allowed him to carry on his work with very little interference on

their part. When the country became liable for the payment of a large war indemnity, therefore, it was expected that the Government would turn, as they had in former cases of financial and political trouble, to the Inspector-General. It was understood that Sir ROBERT HART was willing to undertake the work of financing the loan on certain conditions which would have materially swelled the Imperial revenue and contributed to the prosperity of the country. The matter was looked upon as being as good as settled when suddenly it was announced that Russia had offered her services as financier, and after a little dallying those services were accepted, thus giving Russia and her friend the capitalist, *la belle France*, a financial grip on China's throat and therefore on the service of which Sir ROBERT HART is the head.

The circumstance is calculated to suggest some doubt as to whether Sir ROBERT HART's influence at Peking has not been somewhat overrated; and also some question as to the tendency of that influence, which, whether it has been in some degree overrated or not, has been and is very great. It has been the fashion to regard Sir ROBERT HART as an apostle of civilization in China, using his influence for the gradual opening up of the country, and therefore for the benefit of foreign trade relations. The British Government has attached much value to his advice and he has been almost more powerful than the Minister. That his advice has always been honestly given goes without saying, but we have high authority for the saying that no man can serve two masters. When a litigant desires advice he is not likely to go to his opponent's attorney or counsel. Sir ROBERT HART's services have been given fully and completely to China and his influence, while consolidating the great service over which he so ably presides, has been, in the opinion of some judges, rather calculated to keep foreigners in general at arm's length. In a question vitally affecting Hongkong which is not unlikely to engage attention at an early date, namely, the acquisition by Great Britain from China of a further strip of territory on the Kowloon side, Sir ROBERT HART's voice is likely to carry some weight. The proposed acquisition would include all the Customs stations at the entrance to the harbour, and the Inspector-General would be able to supply the Chinese Government with arguments which might not occur to themselves against the proposal. Something would of course have to be substituted for the present arrangement, for the British Government and public opinion at home would not sanction the colony's being again turned into a smuggling station. It is premature to discuss that point at present, but it will be seen that Sir ROBERT HART will have something to say in the matter, and with every respect for his great abilities and high character it will be well to recognise that he is a counsellor engaged on "the other side," that is, the Chinese side.

PROGRESS IN SIAM.

Compared with China, the kingdom of Siam is a progressive state. It is true that the veneer of Western civilization is very thin in the land of the White Elephant, that corruption and misrule are general in the provinces; and that the people are often grievously oppressed by tyrannical nobles. The administration of justice also leaves very much to be desired, but it is at least more certain than in the Celestial Empire. The prisons are not regulated with much regard for the moral or physical welfare

of the prisoners, but they are not such foul dens as those of China, and the use of torture is not carried to the same extent. The reason, perhaps, lies not so much in the Samese love of reform or disposition to improve, but rather in the espousal of improved methods by the King. In Siam the monarch is always in evidence, more or less, among his people; he endeavours to make himself known to and liked by his subjects. He has also displayed throughout his reign a desire to advance with the times, and if progress has not been rapid it has been very obvious. The capital, Bangkok, has been greatly improved by the construction of good roads, the introduction of tramways, and the erection of public buildings. Efforts have been made to organize the army and to create a small navy, while the work of railway construction has latterly been pushed on vigorously. Among other reforms His Majesty has recently inaugurated is one of a very modest appearance, but which yet may mean much in the official ranks. He has issued a proclamation requesting that the time-honoured custom amongst the Princes and Nobles of Siam of making presents to the King on the occasion of the Royal Birthday may cease. The proclamation adds that it would be a source of greater pleasure to His Majesty to know that these notabilities and officials did their duty faithfully and well than to receive presents from them. This custom has long been a tax on many of the nobles and officials, and in order to make costly presents in the hope of currying favour the donors have been wont to squeeze the peasantry to the utmost limit of endurance. This has become known to the King, and in order to remove one at least of the incentives to unjust taxation His Majesty has decided to abolish a custom which has been attended with such abuse. The example of the King of Siam might be advantageously copied in Peking. The system of "cumshaws" in China is on a much vaster scale than it could ever have been in Siam, and is prolific of corruption and extortion. But unfortunately for the Chinese people there is not apparently the remotest chance of any reform hailing from Peking. The occupant of the Dragon Throne, unlike the Lord of the White Elephant, is completely out of touch both with his myriad subjects and the outside world. Immured in the precincts of the so-called "Prohibited City," he sees nothing of what is going on even in his own capital, knows nothing but what is allowed to filter to him through official sources, and, weakened by the enervating influences of the harem, he is certain to prove as pliant a tool of intriguing mandarins as was the Emperor Hien Fung. On no occasion has His Majesty KWANG SU yet shown any real self-assertion. He has been credited with petulant outbursts, but it is doubtful whether he has any initiative power or any proper conception of his prerogatives and responsibilities. In any case, it is at least certain that he has neither the will nor the power to emulate the energy of action shown both by the King of Siam and the Emperor of Japan. Nor is there, as yet, any sign of the melting of the barriers built up by centuries of exclusiveness being removed. The forces of reaction are again in the ascendant in Peking, and there is little chance of any change coming from within. If the puppet Emperor is ever to become a real live monarch, it will be through the agency of forces without. Are the Powers prepared to strip the veil that interposes between the Son of Heaven and the great world outside the limits of his filthy capital?

THE KUCHENG COMMISSION.

THE OFFICIALS ENCOURAGE THE VEGETARIANS.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS." Foochow, 16th September, 9.15 a.m.]

The Viceroy positively refuses to execute the convicted murderers until all claims are settled. The official attitude encourages the Vegetarians, who seize and torture Christians for helping to bring about the arrest of the leader. The trials are stopped and the Consuls are awaiting orders.

BUILDING ON THE PRAYA RECLAMATION.

Referring once again to the recent sale by public auction of the plot of land on the new Praya Reclamation, near the Cricket Ground, it is interesting to note how in a comparatively short time after the respective sections of the reclamation have been finished handsome new buildings appear on the newly reclaimed ground. Up to the present time two of these sections have been completed, viz., a portion of section 7, opposite the City Hall, and section 2, near the Sailors' Home, and building operations are in active progress on both. On the former (section 7); Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, who purchased the valuable site at the east corner of the lot, adjoining the Murray Pier, are about to erect a large block of offices suitable for carrying on the increasing business of the firm. Next to this lot on the west side is a site, now in the hands of the Government, for which we are informed there have already been several enquiries, and so doubtless it will be soon disposed of for building purposes. We are given to understand that on the adjoining site the Joint Telegraph Companies propose erecting a new pile of buildings, flanking which will be the house of the Hongkong Club, now in course of erection.

The Government, we believe, has decided to reserve the next two large sites, immediately opposite the City Hall, for the erection of new Offices, Court-house, and Post Office, while we have good grounds for stating that the next one, belonging to and in front of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, will not be built upon, the Board of Directors of that institution having decided to lay it out as a garden square. We next come to two very large blocks, the property of the Hon. C. P. Chater and Mr. F. D. Sassoon, and we think we are not mistaken in saying that plans are already in course of preparation for the erection of handsome offices and hongs on these sites.

The other section of which we have spoken, No. 2, is already almost covered with buildings, quite a new town springing up on the reclaimed ground. Beginning at the west end of the section, we have the large wharf and godowns of the C. M. S. N. Co., and adjoining this a site reserved by Government for public purposes. Then follows the property of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., on which one godown has already been erected, and we further understand that the company proposes to build four more godowns adjoining. The next property we see is a large two-storeyed godown, belonging to Mr. Ho Tung, and then a considerable block of more than 100 houses, shops, &c., some nearly finished, while the others are making good progress towards completion. This property belongs to various owners, the Spanish Procuration, Messrs. Siemssen & Co., and Chinese, all the respective lessees having buildings on the ground in course of erection.

Up to the present time we think we may say the scheme has proved a success, and there seems to be every probability that it will continue to be so. We are informed that good prices have been realized for the ground, both by Government and by private owners, and that there is every prospect that the marine lot holders will eventually be gainers in every way by this extension.

Although the Praya Reclamation scheme, as it is called, was not altogether popular, when first proposed, among certain classes of the community, who were not marine lot holders, there would seem to be but little doubt now that it was a movement in the right direction.

The city is now increasing, and will continue to do so; its present boundaries are very circumscribed, and sooner or later would have had to be extended. No better or more convenient mode of doing this than the one now being carried out along the foreshore of the city could have been proposed, and we feel sure that in course of time, when the whole of the project is completed, and handsome new buildings are erected on it from east to west, we shall have a city worthy of the growing importance of the colony.

ASSAULT ON FOREIGNERS AT KOWLOON CITY.

A cowardly assault was committed on Sunday afternoon upon a party of English visitors at Kowloon City. The party, which consisted of three ladies and four gentlemen, had made an inspection of the city, and on returning to the quay were surprised to find their launch in the possession of a gang of Chinese gamblers, who, after some persuasion, were gently but firmly removed from the vessel. The manner of expulsion not being agreeable to the gamblers, recourse was had to a pile of stones lying by, and these were hurled with marvellous rapidity, but fortunately without accuracy of aim, at the occupants of the launch, with the result that one of the ladies received a severe blow over the left eye and several gentlemen were the recipients of body blows. On the exhaustion of the pile of stones, the cowardly ruffians took to their heels. Remonstrance will be made to the proper quarter and it is to be hoped the perpetrators of this outrage, most of whom can be recognized, will be speedily punished.

It is satisfactory to know that the ringleader in the disgraceful attack on English visitors at Kowloon City on Sunday afternoon has been arrested. On Monday he was taken before the head mandarin at Kowloon City, and after he had been identified as a prominent participant in the affray he was lodged in prison pending further examination.

SUPREME COURT

17th September.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.—SIR FIELDING CLARKE (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

LEUNG YAU AND ANOTHER, APPELLANTS, V. POLICE CONSTABLE LEONARD, RESPONDENT.—JUDGMENT.

The appellants sought to have set aside the decision of the Magistrate, whereby they were convicted of removing opium during illegal hours.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. Dennys) appeared for the appellants, and the respondent was represented by Hon. W. M. Goodman, Attorney-General, who was instructed by Mr. Master (Acting Crown Solicitor).

Before delivering judgment the Chief Justice said—This judgment is drawn in the first person singular, but it is our joint judgment in every respect.

His Lordship then read the following judgment—These are two appeals heard together from conviction for illegally moving opium. One appeal is for a rehearing of the facts and the other raises legal objections to the conviction on a stated case. I am satisfied from the evidence that the opium in question was being moved after prohibited hours and, so far as that might be material, that the appellants were intending to evade the law. There is in my opinion no case made out for a rehearing. The other appeal raises two points of law, both of which have been previously decided by this Court, though there is no recorded judgment in writing upon them. In the first place it is contended for the appellants that the packages of opium seized are not "chests" or "chests of opium" within the meaning of Ordinance XXII. of 1887 (principal Ordinance)

and Ordinance XXII. of 1891 (amending Ordinance) and that therefore the penal consequences provided for moving a chest or chests of opium without having applied for and obtained the proper permit have no application. In the two Ordinances "opium" means "raw, crude, or unprepared opium;" "chest" means "the package with the opium therein such as is usually imported by merchants in the colony;" and "loose opium" means "all raw opium found or discovered otherwise than in a chest full of one quality of raw opium." The Magistrate's finding as affecting the point under discussion is as follows:—Externally each of the four chests seized was such as is usually imported by merchants in this colony. They were full of Malwa opium. The opium was not packed in the way in which it is usually packed as imported from India, the usual way being to import the balls whole, each ball having a separate compartment in the chest, whereas in the chests seized there were no compartments and all the balls were not whole. Each chest contained the same kind of opium in it. The question is whether the difference in the internal arrangement of the packages precludes their being regarded as "chests" on the ground that they are not packages "with the opium therein such as are usually imported" &c. I agree with the argument that as the object of the Ordinances, as shown in the preamble to the principal Ordinance, was to control the movement of all raw opium within the colony "loose opium" was intended to describe all raw opium not included in the definition of a "chest." As, however, the word "chest" occurs in the definition of "loose opium" this does not carry the question further, except that as opium which is found "otherwise than in a chest full of one quality of raw opium" is "loose opium," it seems to follow that a package to be a "chest" must be full of one quality of raw opium. This condition if necessary was satisfied in the present case and there remains therefore only the question whether the packages seized with the opium therein were such as are usually imported by merchants in the colony. The very terms, of this latter condition exclude an exact resemblance to a given standard, because one imported package will always differ from another in some respects. I think it is to be inferred from the definition that the package to be a "chest" must either be the package actually imported or bear such a general resemblance to the package usually imported that it would be taken for one by those familiar with the general appearance, but I do not think that this imports that there must be no difference in the external or internal appearance of the package from that which an imported chest usually presents. I do not base my conclusion on an estoppel arising from the description of the opium as chests of opium in the requisition for a permit. In proceedings of a penal nature involving fine and forfeiture I know of no estoppel by admission except a plea of guilty. My conclusion is based upon the consideration that the provisions by the Ordinance are not reasonably consistent with the narrow construction contended for by the appellants. Under sections 10 and 11 of the principal Ordinance it is made imperative on the superintendent to grant the removal permit on presentation of the requisition, and the offence under these sections consists in moving chests before the permit is obtained. In the absence of express language it cannot be supposed that the Legislature intended that a permit should not be necessary in the case of a package having all the external appearances of a chest as usually imported and containing all the opium usual in an imported chest. It is in my opinion no violation of language to hold that the word "package" in the definition refers only to the box or external package and that the "opium therein" is the same opium as is usually imported, though some of the balls have been cut in two. I therefore agree with the Magistrate that these packages were within the definition. The other question is whether, assuming that the chests seized were being illegally removed, the appellants, who are described respectively as a coolie and a boatman, are the proper persons to be prosecuted. Section 6 of the amending Ordinance, for a breach of which the appellants were fined and the opium condemned, is, so far as material, as follows:—"Except as provided in section 12 of the principal Ordinance no re-

moval or movement of opium whatever under sections 10 and 11 of the principal Ordinance shall be allowed between the hours, &c., unless the requisition mentioned in the said sections shall so state and unless the Superintendent shall in his discretion in and by the permits in the said sections mentioned direct and any offence against this section shall be subject to the provision of section 13 of the principal Ordinance." Sections 11 and 13 of the principal Ordinance are as follows:—Section 11: "Every person moving a chest or chests of opium from one place to another within the colony or transshipping such chests or chests within the waters thereof shall before doing so furnish to the Superintendent a requisition properly filled up in the form of Schedule E, whereupon the Superintendent shall furnish a permit in the form of Schedule F authorizing the transshipment or removal of the said opium, which permit shall be exhibited to the opium farmer or his agent, and shall be signed by him or his agent, and shall not be used or acted upon until it has been so signed." Section 13: "Any person offending against or not complying with any of the provisions of sections 9, 10, 11, and 12 shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding five hundred dollars, and any opium imported or exported or stored or moved or attempted to be imported or exported or stored or moved contrary to the provisions of the foregoing sections shall be seized and may be forfeited." The 6th section of the amending Ordinance is clearly meant to be complementary to the 11th section of the principal Ordinance. It imposes further conditions in connection with the requisition and permit when the movement takes place between certain hours and in my opinion, though the language is not as clear as it might be, it has the effect of extending the penal consequence of a breach of section 11 to the non-observance of these further conditions. It was intended to create a new offence, but not a new class of offender. It is necessary therefore in a charge under the 6th section to consider section 11 as amended thereby rather than section 6 by itself. The provision is section 11, for non-compliance with which the penalties are to be imposed, is that every person moving a chest "shall before doing so" apply for and obtain a permit in a certain form. The obligation under the amending section 6 as applied to this case might therefore be shortly stated thus: "Every person moving a chest after 7 p.m. in the month of June shall before doing so apply for and obtain a special permit in the prescribed way." It is clear to me that the person aimed at in both the sections is the person whose business it is to apply for the permit; in other words, the person having the special or general ownership of the opium and at whose instigation the movement is made. The offence is moving the opium without first applying for and obtaining the appropriate permit. If this applied to the coolies and boatmen who are the instruments of removal it would be necessary in all cases for every coolie or boatman who assists in the removal at any stage to personally apply for and obtain a permit. I think that the word "moving" in the expression "every person moving a chest" is obviously used in a constructive sense. In the form of permit "A B is authorized to move, &c.," the meaning is that A B is authorized to procure the removal of, &c. In the same way a man is said to move his furniture when he has it moved from one house to another. The word "transshipping" is used in the section in the same way. Nobody would contend that if chests are being moved from one ship to another all the coolies engaged on the two ships and on the lighters are transshipping the chests and that before doing so each of them is obliged to apply for a permit. The person who procures the removal or transshipment of a chest or chests of opium is in my opinion the person "moving" or "transshipping" the chest or chests and it is upon such person only that the statutory obligation is imposed of obtaining the proper permit "before doing so." The coolies and boatmen cannot be dealt with as accomplices, because if it is not their duty to apply for and obtain the permit they cannot be parties to the offence of moving the opium without having first applied for and obtained it. On this point therefore I think that the appeal must be allowed. As to the forfeiture it is not shown

that the appellants are affected or aggrieved by it, nor has it been shown that the seizure was unjustified. The conviction is set aside and the order of forfeiture being an order against the present appellants goes with it, but we are not in a position to make any order for the release of the opium. Each party having succeeded in an appeal there will be no order as to costs.

TANG U, APPELLANT, V. INSPECTOR STANTON, RESPONDENT.

This was an appeal on a point of law from the decision of the Magistrate, who fined the appellant \$100 for selling intoxicating liquors without a licence at 41, Queen's Road West.

Mr. H. E. Pollock represented the appellant, and Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General) appeared for the respondent.

Mr. Pollock said the appeal was upon a special case stated by the Magistrate under section 99 of the Magistrates Ordinance, 10 of 1890. The case was that the appellant was fined \$100 on 17th June last upon information filed by the respondent for selling liquors without having a licence at 41, Queen's Road West. The evidence was that a police constable went to appellant's shop and bought three bottles of so called "medicine wine." The bottles were taken to the Assistant Government Analyst, Mr. F. Browne, who examined the contents of the bottles. One contained a liquor consisting of 34.79 per cent. of alcohol, 10.58 per cent. of solid matter, principally saccharine, and the balance was water. The other two bottles contained liquor consisting of 36.50 per cent. of alcohol, 9.5 per cent. of solid matter, principally saccharine, and the balance was water flavoured with cinnamon. The liquor would produce intoxication, but no known physiological effects. It must have gone through two processes—fermentation and distillation. For the appellant it was urged that the liquor did not come within the meaning of Chinese spirits; that, on the contrary, the liquor was a well-known Chinese medicine; and that it was distilled from a grain grown in the north of China, and known as *shuk mai*, or maize; it was not drunk as a beverage, but was sold as a medicinal wine; it was often prescribed by Chinese doctors as medicine for rheumatism, weakness, and pains in the bones. It had a strong medicinal smell.

The Chief Justice—Have you got the liquor here? I don't want to taste it. (Laughter).

Mr. Pollock—No, my lord.

The Attorney-General—Mr. Master will be able to give evidence on that point if your Lordship would like to call him.

The Acting Puisne Judge—As to the general effect upon him? (Laughter).

The Attorney-General—I do not know; I did not care to taste it myself. (Laughter).

Mr. Pollock, continuing, said the appeal was on a question of law only. Was the liquor sold in the bottles an intoxicating liquor within the meaning of the Ordinance under which a licence was required? The liquor produced "no known physiological effects." Counsel did not know whether their Lordships understood that term.

The Chief Justice—It means, I suppose, effects other than those of intoxication.

Mr. Pollock—Our contention is that the liquor which was bought at the appellant's shop is not an intoxicating liquor within the meaning of the Spirit Licenses Ordinance, 21 of 1886. Section 2 said that intoxicating liquor included spirits, malt liquor, and any wine, or any other fermented liquor whatsoever.

The Chief Justice—Is it a fermented liquor?

Mr. Pollock—That is the point. I do not think it was found that it was a fermented liquor.

The Chief Justice—Oh, yes; it is distinctly stated in the special case that there were two processes—distillation and fermentation. There was no evidence against that, as far as I know.

Mr. Pollock—Well, the question is whether this is a fermented or intoxicating liquor within the meaning of this Ordinance. I submit there are a great many things that are fermented and liquors that are intoxicating, such as *eau de Cologne*, *sal volatile*, and sweet spirits of nitre which certainly would not be considered as intoxicating within the meaning of the Licensing Ordinance.

The Chief Justice—"Any fermented liquor whatever." How do you get beyond that?

Mr. Pollock—I submit that means fermented liquor ordinarily drunk as a beverage.

The Chief Justice—You say it does not mean anything whatever but wines, spirits and liquors *ejusdem generis*. The Legislature could not have put it more clearly—"any fermented liquor whatever." You say it does not include every fermented liquor; the Legislature says it does.

Mr. Pollock—It means fermented liquors *ejusdem generis*. Your Lordships will have to consider the whole scope of the Ordinance.

The Chief Justice—We have nothing to do with the intention of the Legislature as the words are unmistakeably expressed. We have to look at the whole Ordinance and see what was meant.

Mr. Pollock—Your Lordships will have to see what was the ordinary object of the Spirits Licenses Ordinance. It is quite obvious that the Spirit Licenses Ordinance is not intended to deal with intoxicating liquors used as medicine. *Eau de Cologne* and *sal volatile* contain a certain amount of intoxicating liquor, but no one could possibly contend that they were intended to come within the Ordinance.

The Acting Puisne Judge—Brandy, so far as it is used as a medicine, would not then come under the Ordinance, and that is a spirit also.

Mr. Pollock—Your Lordships will have to deal with a liquor which has not, I believe, formed the subject of any previous case in the Supreme Court, and therefore your Lordships will have to consider what the nature of this liquor is, and the uses to which it is put by the Chinese. A Chinese doctor who has been fourteen years at the Tung Wah Hospital states that the liquor is a medicine used by the Chinese. There is no evidence whatever on the other side to show that the liquor is ordinarily drunk by the Chinese whether they feel ill or well. Therefore your Lordships are bound to find that this liquor is used as a medicine by the Chinese.

The Chief Justice—There is no exception in the Ordinance in favour of medicine.

Mr. Pollock—No, but I submit that such an exception must be implied by the Court.

The Chief Justice—It is an intoxicating liquor.

Mr. Pollock—The question is the meaning of "intoxicating liquor." The learned Magistrate seemed to think that intoxicating liquor was liquor which can be used for the purposes of intoxication.

The Chief Justice—Is the Magistrate entitled to go beyond the Ordinance? He seems to have relied upon the evidence that the liquor produced intoxication, but no physiological effects.

Mr. Pollock—I submit your Lordships ought to look beyond that.

The Chief Justice—I feel a very great difficulty in doing so. There is no definition of "intoxicating liquor" in the Ordinance except that "intoxicating liquor shall consist of any fermented liquor whatever." How can you go beyond that?

Mr. Pollock—I suggest that your Lordship should go beyond that.

The Acting Puisne Judge—We cannot make law here.

The Chief Justice—"Any other fermented liquor whatever" cannot be confined to liquor *ejusdem generis*.

Mr. Pollock—I have not a case here, but I submit, my Lord, that that would be in accordance with decisions that have been given.

The Chief Justice—I am sure, Mr. Pollock, I know you sufficiently well to know that if there had been a case you would have brought it with you. You speak as if you could go and get one; I am quite certain you cannot.

Mr. Pollock—I submit in this case there being the evidence of the doctor to the effect that this liquor is used as a medicine by the Chinese, and there being no proof by the prosecution that it is used as a beverage, your Lordships ought to take that evidence into consideration. Although our opinions of medicine differ widely in some respects from those of the Chinese, it is a fact that the Chinese use the liquor as a medicine.

The Chief Justice—If there was an exception in favour of any fermented liquor sold retail as a medicine that would be all right. Your argument merely tends to show that it would be advisable if such an exception were con-

tained in the Ordinance; but such exception is not there now. If there were such an exception there would be nothing to prevent intoxicating liquor being sold as medical wine.

The Acting Puisne Judge—I do not think you can get over that definition, Mr. Pollock.

Mr. Pollock—Another point arises under the interpretation clause, section 2. "Chinese liquors shall mean intoxicating liquors commonly known as *samshu*." *Samshu* is obtained from rice; the liquor which was bought at the appellant's shop comes from maize. Therefore I submit that the only Chinese spirit which is intended to be dealt with under this Ordinance is the liquor known as *samshu*.

The Chief Justice—A special licence is required for a Chinese spirit shop.

Mr. Pollock—Yes, my Lord.

The Chief Justice—Well, this is not *samshu*.

Mr. Pollock—No, my Lord.

The Chief Justice—Do you mean that they could sell any other fermented liquor that was not obtained from fermentation of rice? If that is so a fermented intoxicating liquor obtained from maize could be sold because it did not come within the definition of *samshu*.

Mr. Pollock—It is a matter for your Lordship to form an interpretation of the Ordinance. You are now considering, what your Lordship told me I could not do—the general scope and intention of the Legislature.

The Chief Justice—I must apologise.

Mr. Pollock concluded by asking their Lordships to allow the appeal.

The Chief Justice—We need not trouble you, Mr. Attorney-General. The appellant in this case has been convicted of selling intoxicating liquor without a licence, and it is admitted he had no licence. It only remains to be seen whether the liquor he sold comes within the definition of intoxicating liquor, which includes spirits, malt liquor, wines, and any other fermented wine whatever. It is not denied that this is fermented liquor, and it is also proved that it is intoxicating liquor; therefore, to my mind, there cannot be any doubt that it does come within this definition. Whether it is regarded by the Chinese as possessing medicinal properties, and prescribed by the doctors for such purposes, or whether it would be wise on the part of the Legislature to make an exception in favour of such liquors, does not appear to me to be material. I cannot possibly find that the liquor does not come under this definition, and I find that the appellant was properly convicted. Appeal dismissed.

The Acting Puisne Judge concurred.

The Attorney-General pointed out that our local Ordinance did not contain a Section analogous to section 72 of the English Licensing Act of 1872 excepting certain medicated spirits, etc. He pointed out that the exceptions in the English Act had given rise to questions between the public and the inland revenue authorities in England and that those authorities only allowed certain medicated wines to be sold in England without a licence if prepared in a certain way, and that as regards the liquor in question in this appeal there was really nothing to prevent it from being used as a cheap and strong intoxicating beverage. It was quite different with certain well known medicines, as regards which there was no fear of their being used as purely intoxicating drinks, though called medicated wines so as to try and escape paying a licence fee.

The Chief Justice—I did not wish to suggest that there was a demand for an exemption clause here.

Appeal dismissed with costs.

12th September.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FIELDING CLARKE (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A JURY.

WONG PUNG SHI V. KWAN YUN FAT.

The plaintiff sought to recover possession of No. 42, Staunton Street, to set aside a deed alleged to have been made by plaintiff on 8th March, 1880, and to recover rents of the house from the defendant.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., (instructed by Mr. Denny) represented the plaintiff, and Hon. Ho

Kai (instructed by Mr. Ho Wyson) appeared for the defendant.

The following jury was empaneled—Messrs. J. McCallum, D. W. Craddock, A. O. Gutierrez, G. C. Fullerton, J. M. G. Manuk, F. Baretto, A. J. dos Remedios.

Mr. Francis, in explaining the facts of the case, said the action was brought by plaintiff as the widow and administratrix of the estate of her husband, who died on 25th October, 1879.

Counsel then read the pleadings, which stated that the plaintiff was a widow residing in Victoria, and she was married to Wong Tui Yau on 25th April, 1873; at that time she was fourteen years of age. Her husband's survivors were, in addition to plaintiff, two children. At the time of his death he was possessed of or entitled to a leasehold house at 42, Staunton Street. He died intestate, and letters of administration to his estate and effects were issued on 1st December, 1879. The plaintiff, being young and wholly inexperienced, entrusted the entire care and management of the property and affairs of her husband to the defendant, and as her attorney and agent he took possession of the house on 8th March, 1880. But the defendant fraudulently and improperly caused the house and premises to be registered in the Land Office in his own name and as his own property, and had remained in possession thereof as owner and in receipt of the rents from the date of registration. He had always refused to account to the plaintiff for the rents and profits and to deliver up possession of the house. Plaintiff left the colony on 8th March, 1880, and was absent many years.

The answer of the defendant stated that on 8th March, 1880, he purchased from the plaintiff the estate of her husband, together with the house at 42, Staunton Street, for the sum of \$2,100. The consideration money was fully paid to the plaintiff, and the transfer of the property to the defendant was properly and legally made by an indenture of assignment dated 8th March, 1880, and registered at the Land Office. The assignment was executed by the plaintiff before two competent witnesses. The defendant denied that he had been entrusted with the entire care and management of any property and affairs of plaintiff's late husband and that he had acted as plaintiff's attorney or agent. The defendant further denied that he obtained the transfer and possession of the said property by any fraudulent or improper means, and further denied that the plaintiff was absent from the colony for many years.

The replication of the plaintiff contained a denial that she had sold the property to the defendant, and a further denial that she had received any money from the defendant on account of such sale, or that she had ever entered into the assignment of the property.

Mr. Francis, proceeding with his address, said the plaintiff was 14 when she was married and 20 when her husband died. As she was ignorant and inexperienced she was unable to attend to her own affairs, and she entrusted them to the defendant. After everything had been settled the defendant persuaded her to go to Canton as her mother was ill. She went, and left with him a copy of her letters of administration and other papers connected with her husband's property. About four months afterwards her mother died and she returned to the colony and found defendant in possession of 42, Staunton Street. He told her she ought to be with her own friends and relatives in Canton as Hongkong was a dangerous place for a young woman to be in. He would look after her property, collect the rents, and send her the money. She remained here only a few months and then returned to her father's house in March, 1880. She was educated by missionaries, and from time to time she was, in answer to her inquiries about the property, put off by the defendant, who said that as she did not want money the rents were being saved for her and her children. It was for this reason that she had not brought the action at an earlier date. There was a deed recording the transfer of the property to the defendant, and it was witnessed by Ng Choy, formerly a barrister here, and his clerk, who was dead. She denied signing that deed and the only supposition was that some other woman was taken to Ng Choy's office, who put her mark to the deed and it was registered in due course. The plaintiff was

totally ignorant of the fact that, as far as the records were concerned, the property had passed out of her hands.

Plaintiff was then called and gave particulars of the various transactions which took place on the death of her husband, and denied that she had sold the property to the defendant or that she had signed a deed of assignment.

In cross-examination witness said she did not know Ng Choy was one of her father's friends. The deed, bond, and petition for administration were then handed to witness and she said she did not sign the deed. She was not certain whether the signatures on the other documents were hers, because they were attached so long ago. She was not quite certain whether she put her signature or cross to the bond.

Hon. Ho Kai said the defence was that contained in the pleadings, and he called the defendant, who distinctly said that the plaintiff sold him the property, and the deed of transfer was signed in his presence by the plaintiff on 8th March, 1880, in Ng Choy's office.

In answer to Mr. Francis defendant said he was agent at 1, Winglok Street, for a master who is dead. He had no other little agencies like this. No. 42, Staunton Street was the only house he owned. He was a teacher in the Government school, but had never taught in the London Missionary Society's school; he was an elder in the Chinese Union Church.

The case had not concluded when the Court rose.

13th September.

Additional witnesses were called for the defence and they all spoke of the sale of the property by the plaintiff to the defendant.

At the conclusion of the defendant's case Hon. Ho Kai addressed the jury. The property was sold to the defendant, plaintiff signed the deed and other documents, the whole of defendant's family knew of the transaction, and was it likely that the family would conspire against the woman to defraud her of her property? Counsel submitted that the woman's story was not worthy of credence, and drew attention to the fact that many years elapsed before she said a word about the property.

Mr. Francis, in reply, said the plaintiff had no real necessity to sell the property. She had brought a charge of deliberate fraud against the defendants. There was nothing easier than to get another woman to come to Hongkong to sign the documents, and there had been no evidence of the plaintiff's signature to the documents except that of the defendant himself.

His Lordship, in addressing the jury, said the whole question was, Did the plaintiff sign the documents? If so was there a *bona fide* sale of the house by the plaintiff, and did she receive the consideration money from the defendant? She said she did not sign the deed of assignment. Of course if she had come to the Court and committed deliberate perjury she was not entitled to the suggestion that she had been defrauded, and she was not entitled to belief in the rest of her evidence. It was a question of one story against another. The plaintiff had got to face this fact, that the deed was not executed in a hole and corner way in a Chinese house and in the presence of unknown witnesses, but it was executed in a lawyer's office and the signature of the plaintiff was witnessed by the lawyer and his clerk. Counsel for the plaintiff had therefore to make some explanation to the jury as to how the signature was there, and the suggestion was that the transaction was carried through with the aid of a dummy assignor. If the jury were satisfied that the plaintiff's statements about her signature were false, that she was saying what was untrue with a view to misleading the jury and strengthening her case by making them suppose that she could not possibly sign the deed of assignment because she could not write Chinese—if she was deceiving the jury and they were satisfied she could write her name, there must of necessity be a doubt about the woman's evidence in other particulars. She had admitted to the Court that she signed the petition for letters of administration, so that, according to her story, the real plaintiff was taken away during the course of the administration proceedings on one occasion, and on another a second woman was taken. The jury would have to consider

whether that was likely; they would have to apply their common sense to the question. If plaintiff, in stating that she did not sign these documents, had said what was untrue, how could the jury believe her in regard to her other evidence? His Lordship then referred to the evidence in detail and said that the two sides were as far apart as heaven and earth. In conclusion he said that fraud, conspiracy, perjury, forgery, and serious offences against the Registration Ordinance were involved in the case, and the jury must remember that the suit was brought after a lapse of fifteen or more years. The questions for the jury were—Was the agreement signed by the plaintiff; was the memorial signed by the plaintiff; if so was there a *bona fide* sale by plaintiff to defendant; and did the plaintiff receive the consideration money?

The jury retired and after an absence of a quarter of an hour answered "yes" to all the questions.

His Lordship—Is the plaintiff here? Tell her to come forward as I want to speak to her.

The plaintiff stepped forward, and his Lordship said to the interpreter—Tell her the jury have found that she came here to tell a string of lies, and I have not the slightest doubt the jury are perfectly correct. If it was not for her family, and that I do not wish to bring disgrace and trouble upon them, I should have no hesitation in sending her to prison. I am satisfied that the defendant's witnesses gave their evidence honestly and truthfully throughout.

Judgment for defendant with costs.

11th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

TAI SIN FOO V. HOPKINS, KUM HING AND CO.

Plaintiff sued for \$347.80, the value of food supplied on behalf of the defendant firm. Mr. Ho Wyson appeared for the plaintiff, and the defendants did not appear, neither were they represented.

Plaintiff spoke of supplying food of the above mentioned value to coolies on board the *Pro-pontis* to the order of the defendant firm.

His Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff for the full amount with costs.

12th September.

In re KAN CHEONG SHOP.

Four writs of foreign attachment against the Kan Cheong shop came on for hearing. The plaintiffs and the amounts of their claims are as follows—Yee Cheung firm, \$400, Wa Hing Bank, \$1,000, Kwang Mi Cheung, \$308.03, Min Yuen Tong \$852.80.

Mr. Gedge (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master's office) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Mounsey was for the defendant.

Mr. Mounsey said he had two objections to the writs, as the whole of them were bad. If, however, his Lordship was against him, he would have nothing more to say. His first objection was that no writ of foreign attachment could issue against a firm. All the affidavits referred to the defendant firm as the defendants; they did not refer to the partners by name. The plaintiffs must show that the defendants themselves were leaving the colony. The second objection was that there was no mention of a garnishee. Within the last month the Chief Justice had expressed the opinion that any writ of foreign attachment in this colony was bad unless the garnishee was mentioned in the writ. In a case in which the garnishee was not mentioned a new writ was ordered and served on the defendants.

His Lordship—Suppose I take that view and order fresh writs to be filed at once and taken this afternoon, what good does your objection do you?

Mr. Mounsey said that proceedings in bankruptcy had been filed against the debtors' estate, and if the costs were piled up there would be nothing to pay the creditors with.

His Lordship—There is nothing now, is there?

Mr. Mounsey—There is about \$5,500 in

Court; at present there is sufficient to pay 50 per cent. or more of the debts.

His Lordship—I must adjourn to see what the Chief Justice did say, because as far as I am concerned writs of foreign attachments have been issued without any garnishee being stated.

Mr. Gedge—But the garnishees are stated.
Mr. Mounsey—They are not in the advertisement in the paper.

His Lordship looked at the writs and said—Yes, here are the names of the garnishees.

Mr. Mounsey said he had not seen the writs; he had looked only at the advertisement in the *Government Gazette*, and he understood that the advertisement must be a copy of the writ.

Mr. Gedge said that, according to the Code, only "notice of the issue of the writ shall be inserted." In regard to the other objection his reply was a quotation from the Partnership Ordinance—"Any person carrying on business within the jurisdiction in a name or style other than his own name may be sued in such name or style as if it was his own name." That was as clear as possible.

His Lordship—I think that applies to your case; it is a most difficult Ordinance to understand. I overrule the objections.

Mr. Mounsey thereupon said he would admit judgment for the plaintiffs in all the suits.

His Lordship gave judgment for plaintiffs.

14th September.

CHOO FOO LAU V. W. D. LEIGHTON.

—JUDGMENT.

In this case plaintiff sought to recover \$990.25, the value of 642 bags of sugar shipped for delivery in Hongkong, and of which he could not obtain delivery from the defendant, who is the master of the steamship *Bonnington*.

Mr. Ewens appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Hastings for the defendant.

His Lordship, in delivering judgment, said—In this case the plaintiff is a firm carrying on business in this colony, and defendant is master of the steamship *Bonnington*. The claim of the plaintiff is for the value of 642 bags of sugar or delivery of the same, and the question for the Court to decide is whether the master of the steamer is liable for that short delivery or non-delivery as the case may be. The sugar in question was shipped at Samarang, and there can be no doubt on the evidence that a considerable quantity of the bags of sugar were in a very bad condition, and that therefore, either during the actual process of slinging them in, or after they had been stored in the hold, a good deal of the loose sugar escaped, and, as is the case with cargo of this nature, there was a great deal of drainage. The sugar arrived in Hongkong, and according to the plaintiff's story he in due time went and took delivery of as much as he could get. His statement is that he never received a certain portion, that there were 642 bags short, and that he, his agents, or the men employed by him, were prevented from taking off the ship a certain quantity of molasses—the drainage spoken of—in consequence of the action of the master and officers, who, according to the plaintiff's version, turned the men off; therefore the plaintiff's case is that he never received the full consignment, and that he was actually prevented from taking out the molasses owing to the sudden departure of the steamer. The evidence for the defence, which principally consists of the evidence taken *de bene esse* of the master and two officers, tells a different story. They practically set up three defences. The first is there was undue delay on the part of the plaintiff in taking delivery of the cargo; secondly, the plaintiff, although bound to do so, refused to take delivery of anything but whole and sound bags; thirdly, the plaintiff voluntarily, and of his own free will, left the ship some considerable time before she weighed anchor, and never asked for her to be delayed, and therefore gave up all claim to any of the molasses. With regard to these three objections to the plaintiff's claim, the first was that there was undue delay. A gentleman was called from Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg's firm, who were the agents at that time, who stated that he had given instructions to their comrade to send a messenger or message to the plaintiff, firm to hurry them up with their lighters to take away the cargo. There is no evidence before the Court that the message ever reached the plain-

tiff. The defendant said there was no delay on his part, inasmuch as the plaintiff's sugar was at the bottom of the hold, and therefore the plaintiff had to wait until the top sugar was taken away before he could get his own. If there was a delay I consider it was such a slight one that it would not deprive the plaintiff of his claim to recover. With reference to the second defence the statement is that the plaintiff refused to take anything but sound bags, and that when he had taken delivery of the sound bags he asked the mate or captain—I forget which—"Where is the balance of our consignment?" and plaintiff was told by one of the officers, who pointed to the molasses in the hold and said, "That is the balance; you can take it," and plaintiff refused to take it. On the other hand the plaintiff states that he thoroughly admits that, under the clause in the bill of lading to the effect that the ship was not liable for broken bags, he was liable to take the broken bags in the bottom of the hold, and as a matter of fact he did take these bags, and he denies the statement that he refused to accept a tender which was made to him. I hold he was liable under that clause in the bill of lading to take anything that was tendered to him as against the balance of the delivery of sugar. I may mention that although the captain and officers swore that the plaintiff refused to take any broken bags, yet when pressed they afterwards admitted he took a small number. I think this is a point in favour of the plaintiff. With regard to the statement that the plaintiff and his agents were not turned off, the plaintiff says they were actually turned off. Well, apart from that, the captain and the third officer said that the men voluntarily struck or left work and got into their lighters and cleared the ship's side an hour before the anchor was weighed. Unfortunately for the defendant the man who was concerned in weighing anchor admitted that during the time he was weighing the first anchor the plaintiff and his men were at work on the molasses in the hold, so that I am perfectly certain on the evidence that up to the last these men were at work, and whether they were actually turned over the side or whether they left the ship in order to prevent their being taken away in her, I cannot consider that their leaving work was voluntary in any way whatever. The captain states that when he left he took away molasses and loose sugar in the hold to the extent of \$1,000 in value. If he did so he did very wrong, because, according to the evidence of Mr. Dodwell, who was called for the defence, there was no necessity to hasten away, and as far as the agents were concerned the captain might have remained here a fortnight. Looking at the evidence as a whole I am bound to come to the conclusion that the evidence of the plaintiff is far more worthy of credence than the evidence for the defence, and that although the captain could not have given full delivery of the sugar he never made legal tender of the loose sugar and molasses and the broken bags and remnants of bags which contained sugar. Under these circumstances there will be judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

THE "BELGIC"

Mr. Van Buren, the agent of the O. & O. Company, kindly informs us that he has received the following telegram from Yokohama:—"Belgic lies broadside on sandy beach. Her hull remains uninjured. If the weather remains favourable steamer can be got afloat again."

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Twelve members competed for the Long Range Cup last Saturday. The Cup was won by Cr.-Sergt. Hopkins, R.B., and the Spoons by Mr. Stewart and Pte. Gigg, R.B. The following are the best scores:—

	700 yds.	800 yds.	Handicap.	Total.
Cr.-Sergt. Hopkins.	46	38	—	84
W. Stewart.	30	38	12	80
Pte. Gigg, R.B.	33	28	16	77
Sergt. Shearing.	39	36	—	75
W. Deas.	39	14	20	73
G. White.	23	31	18	72

THE NAVY LEAGUE.

The first meeting of the Hongkong branch of the Navy League was held on Thursday afternoon at the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. T. Jackson was elected to the chair, and amongst those present were—Hon. A. McConachie, Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Captain G. C. Anderson, Captain Tillett, Captain Palmer, Messrs. G. B. Dodwell, J. J. Francis, Q.C., G. C. Cox, F. Henderson, J. McCallum, J. Y. V. Vernon, C. Mooney, R. Shewan, F. Dodwell, R. Cooke, M. A. A. de Souza, W. Danby, A. M. Marshall, A. Coxon, and E. W. Mitchell, Secretary *pro tem*.

The CHAIRMAN said the object of the meeting was to inform the members what progress had been made since the notice had been sent out asking the British community to join the Navy League, and afterwards to appoint a Committee, which could appoint the President and Secretary. He thereupon asked the Secretary *pro tem* to read the names of the members.

Mr. MITCHELL read fifty-four names of gentlemen who had joined the League, and said that the incidental expenses up to the present amounted to \$65.85; no subscriptions had yet been collected, but they would be collected after the Committee was formed.

The CHAIRMAN said they had now to elect a Committee, and he had thought it advisable to get together names of gentlemen connected with shipping. Without wishing to influence members in any way he would read several names that had occurred to him. The names were as follows—Captain Hastings—

Mr. FRANCIS—No Government officials.

The CHAIRMAN—I am not so sure about that. At all events it is for the meeting to decide.

Mr. FRANCIS—Is he here?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes. The names are Captain Hastings, Mr. Cooke, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Woolley, Mr. Marshall, Captain Tillett, Mr. Ross, Mr. Francis, Mr. Gershom Stewart, and Mr. Mitchell. The right and proper way is to elect the Committee by ballot, and I propose we proceed with it. I suggest that the Committee shall consist of not more than ten members.

Mr. DANBY asked whether British subjects in Canton could be members of the Hongkong Committee.

Mr. MITCHELL said there were no members resident in Canton.

The CHAIRMAN did not think it would be convenient for meetings if Canton residents were on the Committee.

Hon. A. McCONACHIE proposed that the gentlemen whose names had been read out be elected without a ballot.

Mr. McCALLUM was in favour of a ballot, and a ballot was accordingly taken.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Woolley had not yet joined the League and therefore could not be elected on the committee.

Captain PALMER—In case any members of the League are shifted from Hongkong to a Chinese port where there is a branch, do they have to become members of that League and pay another subscription?

The CHAIRMAN—No, I should think not.

Capt. PALMER—Are the branches affiliated?

The CHAIRMAN—I should think they would be affiliated.

The following gentlemen were elected on the Committee—Captain Hastings, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Francis, Mr. Shewan, Mr. Cooke, Captain Tillett, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Coxon, and Mr. Gershom Stewart.

Mr. G. B. DODWELL was elected, but he asked for his name to be struck out as he had so many things to attend to. Mr. Gershom Stewart was thereupon elected in his place.

This was the whole of the business and the Committee then met to discuss one or two small matters.

A telegram from Raub, dated 2nd September, states:—"Rough clean-up of battery yielded 1,050 oz. amalgam, the estimated quantity of stone crushed being 870 tons. Prospects remain unchanged." At the usual ratio the amalgam will yield about 350 ounces of gold from 870 tons of stone. The previous clean-up yielded 1,550 oz. amalgam from 1,150 tons of stone.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Thursday afternoon. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present—Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings (Acting Capt. Superintendent of Police), Dr. J. M. Atkinson (Acting Colonial Surgeon), Surgeon-Major Westcott (Acting Medical Officer of Health), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

THE CENTRAL MARKET.

A petition was received from the lessees of fruit, vegetable, and poultry shops in the Central Market praying that the market should be closed to the public at nine o'clock at night instead of at eight, as provided by law, on the ground that in exporting their goods to other ports it is not unusual for them to send their invoices after eight o'clock, and that at eight o'clock the streets are often crowded with people, some of whom regret that they cannot buy anything at that hour of the night.

The following minute was appended:—

The President—I have gone into this question fully and have come to the conclusion that the prayer of the petitioners should be granted. The only expense connected with the proposed alteration is the additional cost of lighting.

The PRESIDENT said the petitioners were prepared to pay the additional cost of lighting, but that was a matter which, he thought, hardly concerned the Sanitary Board. The additional cost would not amount to more than \$150, which represented additional rent per month of 70 cents on the shops and 25 cents on the stalls. He moved that the petition be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary with the request that all information with regard to the lighting, &c., be forwarded to the Governor.

Carried.

FRUIT SHOPS.

Papers concerning the sale of food elsewhere than in a public market were considered, in reference to which the following minutes were appended:—

Mr. Ede—I am in favour of supervising all fruit sold in the colony as far as possible, but I would encourage the establishment of good fruit shops subject to their being licensed and supervised by the Sanitary Board.

The Colonial Surgeon—It is most important that the fruit supply of the colony, especially in the Western district—one of the most crowded parts of the town—should be under some supervision, as unripe fruit is the cause of most of the choleric diarrhoea we get at this time of the year.

The matter was referred to the Colonial Secretary, with a recommendation, proposed by the President, that some fifteen shops be provided in addition.

CONCRETE FLOORS.

With regard to the requests for exemption from the provisions of the by-laws governing the concreting of floors, the President moved that the applicants be informed the Board are unable to accede to their requests.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics showed that the death rate for the week ending 7th September was 21.4 per 1,000 per annum as against 21.7 at the corresponding date last year. For the week ended 31st August the rate was 24.5 per 1,000 per annum against 20.4 at the corresponding period last year.

PLANS FOR THE NEW PUBLIC OFFICES.

With reference to the reported rejection by a committee of plans prepared by the Director of Public Works for the proposed new Public Offices, the plans in question were, we hear, merely trial plans prepared at the request of the committee to enable them to see how certain ideas they suggested would work out. The committee was appointed as long ago as 1893 to report as to whether new Public Offices were necessary and if so to make suggestions as to what was required. There are two lots in front of the City Hall available as sites. After the matter had been dragging on for some time, being delayed by the plague of last year and afterwards by the engagements of the Director of Public Works in connection with the Tai-ping-shan arbitration, the committee got fairly to work some months ago, and in order to see

whether one or both lots would be required requested the Director of Public Works to have plans prepared for the inclusion of the Supreme Court, Post Office, and other Government offices in one building. On the plans being submitted it was at once seen that the idea of placing all in one building could not be carried out. The present idea therefore is to have the Supreme Court and the Law Offices in a separate building on one of the lots, and the Post Office and certain other offices in another building on the adjoining lot, the Colonial Secretary's Office, Council Chamber, etc., being left in the present building. The idea of the unofficial members of the committee was from the outset that competitive designs should be invited and, although that appears not to have been the intention of the Government, it will probably be carried out. The plans prepared thus far have been preliminary or trial plans only, with the idea of arriving at a decision as to the general character of the buildings for which final plans should be prepared.

THE "VERONA" IN A TYPHOON.

THE CHIEF OFFICER SERIOUSLY INJURED.

The *Verona*, which arrived in Hongkong on Tuesday night, had a very eventful voyage after leaving Nagasaki. A few hours after leaving that port the vessel encountered a typhoon. The adverse weather commenced at noon on the 6th inst. and lasted until five o'clock on the afternoon of the 7th inst. During the whole of that time the vessel was hove to, great waves swept over her from stem to stern, and rain fell in torrents. There were only three passengers on board, and although they were naturally very much alarmed at the terrific roughness of the weather, there was no panic. The captain was on the bridge throughout, and saw the first cutter and the jolly boat washed overboard. The second cutter was also smashed in the davits and a wave eventually carried her away. On the night of the 6th Chief Officer Rogers was asleep in his berth, when the vessel gave a tremendous roll and he was pitched out. His head came in violent contact with the leg of a chair and he was rather badly injured. He himself, however, did not look upon the wound that he sustained on the head as at all serious, and after it had been dressed by the doctor he resumed his duty. On the next day he met with a much more serious misfortune. He was near the fore-castle when a huge sea swept over the bows and hurled him with much force against the winch, the result being that his head was fractured. Even then, although his face was covered with blood and he must have been suffering, he expressed his willingness to continue work, and told the captain that he would soon recover. The doctor saw that the fracture was a very serious one and the captain told the injured officer to go to his cabin, and he did so. On the arrival of the boat in this port the unfortunate chief was in such a serious condition that he was removed to the Peak Hospital, where he now lies in a critical state. After the storm had passed away the vessel, which had behaved admirably considering the enormous force of the typhoon, made very quick progress, and arrived here only twenty-four hours late. Besides the loss of the three boats there was practically no damage done to the vessel.

Late on Thursday night, 22nd August, says the *Japan Advertiser*, a number of the coolies at work loading the *Empress of China* came to logger heads with the Chinese steerage passengers and proceeded to bully them. The Chinese happened to be some 360 or 370 strong, and knowing they had the crew at their backs, showed a bold front to the coolies. A free fight ensued, in which words were used more freely than kicks for a while, but presently a regular *melée* was started. At this juncture the coolies swarmed out of the holds and the Chinese out of their narrow quarters, and for a little while pandemonium reigned supreme. The European crew, however, quickly got weary of this row, and threw the coolies overboard into their lighters without enquiring into the cause of the dispute. This simple course of procedure put an effectual stop to the affair.

THE "HIROSHIMA MARU" IN A TYPHOON.

ONE MAN LOST OVERBOARD.

The N. Y. K. steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain E. A. Anderson, which arrived from Japan on Thursday, had a stormy passage, having encountered the typhoon. She left Yokohama at 6.30 p.m. on the 28th August, arriving at Kobe on the 30th at 5 a.m.; light northerly winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Left Kobe on the 2nd September at 6 a.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki at 6 a.m. on the 3rd; fine weather. Left Shimonoseki at 6 a.m. on the 4th with moderate easterly wind and fine weather. At 4 p.m. on the 5th a strong south-south-easterly gale was blowing with high confused sea. At 8 p.m. the ship was rolling heavily and shipping water all over, the cargo of coal shifting, and ship with a heavy list to starboard. Hove ship to; wind increasing in force. On the 6th it blew a whole gale throughout the day, with furious high sea; at 8.30 p.m. lost one man overboard. On the 7th, at 5.30 p.m., the wind shifted to the north-west, blowing a hurricane with heavy rain squalls; sea tremendous; barometer 28.53; thermometer 69. The wind continued of hurricane force until 4 p.m. on Sunday, the 8th, and then moderated to a gale. At 3 a.m. on the 8th kept the ship away on her course, the wind and sea moderating. The ship was hove to fifty-five hours. For the remainder of the passage fresh to moderate north-north-easterly winds and fine weather were experienced. Arrived at Hongkong on the 11th September at 11.30 p.m.

THE DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the Twelfth Ordinary General Meeting, to be held at the offices of the Company, on Saturday, the 21st day of September:—

The General Managers have now to submit to the shareholders their report on the twelfth year's working of the Company, ended 30th June, 1895. After paying all running expenses, premia of insurance, remuneration to consulting committee and auditors' fees, there remains a net profit of \$295,065.70, and with the consent of the shareholders it is proposed to appropriate this amount as follows:—

To write off \$34,472 from the values of the Company's properties on 30th June last, being the equivalent of 8 per cent. thereon, and to pay a final dividend of 7 per cent. on the capital of the Company (making, with the interim dividend of 5 per cent. paid in March last, a total dividend of 12 per cent. for the year), which will absorb a further \$70,000, to transfer \$150,000 to the credit of the reserve fund, and carry forward to next year's account the balance of \$40,593.70.

The steamer *Fokien* was sold in April last. She was of considerable age and too small for the present requirements of the Company.

A new steamer has been contracted for with Messrs. Hamilton & Co., of Port Glasgow, and is expected to arrive in Hongkong to take her place in the Company's service in February next.

The fleet is still maintained in first class order, and the steamers continue to rank in the estimation of marine insurers as risks of the very highest class.

The amounts appearing as "freights due" and "accounts receivable" on 30th June have all been collected since that date.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Since the last meeting Mr. C. J. Holliday has retired and Messrs. A. Ross and R. Shewan have been invited to seats at the Board.

The Committee now consists of Messrs. D. R. Sassoon, the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, A. Ross, and R. Shewan.

In terms of the articles of association all these gentlemen retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The present accounts have been audited by Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. H. Gaskell, who retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

DOUGLAS LAPRAK & Co.,

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1895.

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Value of the Co.'s steamers <i>Haitan, Hailong, Namoa, Thales, and Formosa</i>	621,000.00		
Value of buoys and moorings at Swatow, Amoy, Tamsui, and Hongkong, steam launch, and sundry spare gear	9,905.79		
		630,905.79	
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (current account)	19,561.03		
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (deposit and interest account)	742,016.93		
		761,577.96	
Freights due 30th June, 1895.....		88,219.96	
Sundry accounts receivable from agencies, &c.		82,869.47	
Value of coals in godown		12,141.00	
Late Amoy agents		15,294.38	
		\$1,591,008.56	
LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital account:—20,000 shares at \$50	1,000,000.00		
Reserve fund	200,000.00		
Underwriting account of the Company	39,146.71		
Sundry accounts payable.....	46,665.15		
Suspense account (late Amoy agents).....	10,000.00		
Unpaid dividends	131.00		
Profit and loss account 30th June, 1894, brought forward	37,888.44		
Balance on 30th June, 1895	257,177.26		
		295,065.70	
		\$1,591,008.56	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1895.

	\$	c.
To remuneration to General Managers for office expenses, &c., for 12 months.....	10,000.00	
To remuneration to Consulting Committee for 12 months	2,000.00	
To auditors' fees	600.00	
To exchange account	1,536.66	
To interim dividend at 5 per cent. for half-year ending 31st December, 1894.....	50,000.00	
To balance.....	295,065.70	
	\$359,202.36	
By balance of profit and loss account 30th June, 1894	37,888.44	
By profit on running the Co.'s steamers to date	280,817.24	
By profit on coals supplied to steamers.....	2,771.22	
By profit on wharfage account	2,282.96	
By profit on interest account	30,442.50	
By profit on sale of steamer <i>Fokien</i>	5,000.00	
	\$359,202.36	

THE TYPHOON OF 30th AUGUST.

The following notice of the depression at the end of August is attached to the meteorological notices in the *Gazette* :—

On the 28th at 10.55 a.m. "A depression is probably forming in N.E. part of China Sea." At 11.40 a.m. Forecast:—"Barometer falling: moderate N. to N.E. winds, probably increasing: fair to unsettled, some rain."

On the 29th at 1.20 a.m. Two lanterns hoisted vertically. At 11.55 a.m. "The depression appears to be situated to the N.W. of Bolinao." Forecast:—"Barometer falling: moderate N. and N.E. winds, probably increasing: unsettled, squally, some rain."

On the 29th at 4.50 p.m. Red Drum hoisted. On the 30th at 11.20 a.m. "The depression seems to be almost stationary at present." Forecast:—"Barometer unsteady: moderate or fresh N. winds: unsettled, squally."

On the 30th at 10.10 p.m. Two lanterns hoisted vertically. On the 31st at 4.15 a.m. Black South cone hoisted. At 10.15 a.m. "Typhoon moving westward to the south of Hongkong in about 19 degrees latitude." At 11 a.m. Forecast:—"Barometer rising: fresh E. breezes: squally and showery." At 6.10 p.m. Black South cone lowered.

The above depression seems to have been forming in about 18 deg. to 20 deg. lat. and 117 deg. to 118 deg. long. between the 28th and 30th.

During this interval pressure was about 0.1 inch below the normal at Hongkong and along the S.E. coast of China, moderate to fresh N.E. to N. breezes, accompanied by squally weather, prevailing in these districts. The barometer was also low, to the extent of about 0.1 inch and upwards, at Bolinao and Manila, where light to moderate S. and S.W. breezes prevailed.

On the 30th the depression commenced to move towards W.N.W. and W. The steamer *Sung-kang*, in 19 deg. 54 min., 116 deg. 07 min., at 4 p.m. on this day and steering for Hongkong, experienced a strong N.W. backing breeze during the evening. At midnight the barometer had fallen to its lowest point, 29.57, with the wind at S.W., a moderate breeze. The barque *Matterhorn* was at noon situated in 21 deg. 27 min., 114 deg. 23 min. when the wind began to increase from N.W. At 6 p.m. they had a strong gale which veered to N.E. at 8 p.m. At 10 p.m. the wind fell calm, but a little later it sprang up from S.E., but quickly moderated to a fresh breeze at midnight. Barometer readings were not recorded. The centre was situated in 21 deg., 114 deg. 15 min. at midnight of the 30th and it passed to the south of Gap Rock near 4 a.m. on the 31st. A strong breeze veering from N.N.E. at 1 a.m. to E.S.E. at 7 a.m. was experienced at this station with the lowest recorded barometer reading, 29.54, at 4 a.m. The steamer *Devauongse* was in the left-hand semicircle. This vessel had been steered N. 33 deg. E. from her noon position (19 deg. 20 min., 112 deg. 03 min.) on the 30th, but at 2.30 a.m. on the 31st her commander found it advisable to put her head to the southward, as the barometer had begun to fall sharply and the wind had increased to a strong N.W. breeze accompanied by torrential rain. The wind direction quickly backed towards W. as they steered southward, but it increased to a moderate and fresh gale at 5 a.m. from W. by S., accompanied by incessant rain and lightning. The lowest barometer reading, 29.50, was made at 4 a.m. and at 6.30 a.m. they steered N. 21 deg. E. At 7 a.m. in 20 deg. 48 min., 113 deg. 15 min., the barometer had risen to 29.58, with the wind at S.W. by W. decreasing and continuing to back as they proceeded northwards. The barque *W. le Lacheur* situated in about 21 deg., 113 deg., also experienced a strong N. backing to W. gale between 3 a.m. and 7 a.m. of the 31st, the wind suddenly decreasing to a fresh breeze at 8 a.m. and backing to S.W. at 10 a.m. The barometric minimum, 29.48, occurred at 6 a.m.

These observations, together with those made at Gap Rock, show that the area comprised by strong winds was exceedingly small.

At noon on the 31st the centre was situated in 21 deg. 15 min., 112 deg. 30 min. The steamer *Frejr*, in 20 deg. 30 min., 111 deg. 19 min. at noon had a fresh N.N.E. breeze with squally weather. The wind direction was backing, and between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., the vessel being situated in 20 deg. 38 min., 111 deg. 50 min., at the latter hour a strong W. gale was experienced, the barometer falling to 29.64. The wind continued to back as they steered towards N.E., and at 8 p.m. it had come to E.S.E. of force 3, the barometer having risen in the meantime to 29.69. The steamer *Hongkong* had taken shelter in St. John's harbour during the morning and they there experienced strong N.E. winds, the barometer reading 29.62 at 4 p.m. At this hour the centre was passing between the anchorage and the position of the *Frejr*. Moving towards W. by N. it must have entered the coast a few hours later.

In this depression strong gales were not experienced at a greater distance than 30 miles from the centre and then only in the front or W. semicircle. In rear the winds were particularly light and did not exceed a strong breeze at the same distance. Moreover in rear the wind quickly regained a N.E. direction off the south coast of China as pressure remained low over the north part of the China Sea.

The American ship *Henrietta*, which recently stranded at Satoura, Awa, has been sold by auction for \$4,100, a Japanese being the purchaser. 400 tons of manganese on board fetched \$510 and a quantity of curios in the holds were disposed of for \$275.

THE HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

The following is the Football Club's report for the season 1894-1895 :—
To the members of the Hongkong Football Club.

The Committee have the pleasure to lay before you their report on the last season.

The accounts attached show a balance of \$172.55 to the credit of the Club on September 9th last.

The following record shows the results of the matches played under Association and Rugby rules :—

	Association.	Rugby.
Lost	3	3
Drawn	5	0
Won	4	4

Seven Inter-Club matches have also been played under Association rules. The Committee hope to be able to arrange more of these interesting fixtures.

For specially good play in the Association matches badges have been awarded, on the recommendation of a special Committee, to Messrs. E. F. Mackay (Captain), G. D. Campbell, H. K. R., and A. Sharp; and for specially good play in the Rugby matches caps have been awarded to Messrs. G. H. Potts (Captain), C. C. Bowring, D. Landale, and A. S. Anton.

The season was closed by a dinner, at which forty-four were present, including their Excellencies the Governor, the Admiral, and the General.

With the assistance of Messrs. P. G. Davies, R. A., L. T. Saunderson, R. B., and T. L. Barnardiston, R. N., the Committee have arranged a football competition for a cup of the value of \$100. The Committee propose that, as the Club's funds show a good surplus, \$50 should be contributed towards providing the cup.

The Club now consists of 83 members. During the year twenty new members were elected.

The annual meeting for the purpose of receiving the Committee's report for the past season and for electing the Committee and Officers for the coming season will be held in the Cricket Pavilion on Thursday, September 19th, at 5 p.m.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, President.
J. C. CAMELTON, Hon. Treasurer.
E. F. MACKAY, Captain, Association.
G. H. POTTS, Captain, Rugby.
J. M. ATKINSON.
A. SHARP.
R. F. COBBOLD.
H. J. GEDGE.
C. M. FIRTH.

FRANK BROWNE,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 14th September, 1895.

THE U. S. CHENG TU COMMISSION.

The address to President Cleveland by the Americans at Shanghai appears to have received his prompt attention. In accordance with the representations of the address the Secretary of State has instructed Minister Denby that the Chengtu Commission would consist of an American Consul, an American naval officer, and an American missionary. The Consul has been appointed direct from Washington in the person of Consul Read at Tientsin; the naval officer will be appointed by Admiral Carpenter, and the missionary by Minister Denby. The constitution of the Commission will be wholly American and in full accord with the principle advocated by the American meetings. A telegram in the *North China Daily News* announced that the American Government would act independently and would not co-operate, but probably this should be understood to mean that the American Government had decided to have an adequate Commission of its own, and while it would not bind itself by any joint action it would not be averse to giving and receiving such counsel as tended to make the investigation effective. But however this may be, our American friends are to be congratulated in having their representations to their home government so affirmatively and promptly considered.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE BURNING OF THE "YACHIYO-MARU."

Particulars of the burning of the steamer *Yachiyo-maru* (owned by Mr. Nagoshi Aisuke, of Osaka) in the Tsuruga harbour, which we reported briefly from a telegram, are now to hand. The steamer left Kobe on the 18th ult., with 1,500 cases of kerosine oil and some sugar and flour, bound to Tsuruga. She encountered a gale on the way and after putting into Sakai, Hoki province, for shelter, she arrived at her destination on 28th ult., where all her cargo was discharged. Eight hundred cases of Echigo petroleum and some rice were taken on board as return freight on the day of disaster, 29th ult., and while some more oil was being taken in an explosion with a tremendous report occurred in her hold and the vessel was soon enveloped in furious flames and dense clouds of black smoke. Seven men who happened to be on board at the time, having no other means of escape, jumped overboard. They were picked up by boats in the vicinity, but all the other men, with the exception of one, were severely burned by the explosion and six men died soon afterwards. The fire, with the aid of the highly combustible fluid, spread all over the ship and burnt with a fearful force. The efforts of firemen who essayed to arrest the flames availed nothing. The captain's order to scuttle the vessel also proved a failure. The fire, which was started in the morning, continued till seven in the evening, when the vessel was burnt to the water's edge. The cause of the outbreak so far remains unknown.—*Japan Gazette*.

LOSS OF THE "SATSUMA."

Shanghai, 11th September.

Captain Swenson, master of the British barque *Satsuma*, arrived at Shanghai this morning from Chinghai, together with his officers and crew, his vessel having been totally wrecked on Friday last, the 6th inst., whilst the typhoon was raging. It appears that the *Satsuma* left Nagasaki on the 1st instant, and on the 5th September she was anchored off Gutzlaff when a strong typhoon was blowing, which had driven her south of her course, her destination being Shanghai. The typhoon got in so strong that the *Satsuma* was driven from her anchorage, and Captain Swenson then endeavoured to make for shelter on the north of Chusan, between that island and a smaller one to the north of it. His efforts were unavailing, for the *Satsuma* was driven ashore on the coast of North Chusan on the morning of the 6th inst. soon after daylight and became a complete wreck, being simply smashed to pieces on the rocks by the force of wind and wave. The captain had, however, sufficient opportunity to rig up a life-saving apparatus by means of a line from the vessel to the shore, by which all the officers and crew safely reached land. The islanders rendered every possible assistance in rescuing the crew and providing for their wants when they were landed. The crew, however, had no time to save anything, so hurried was their departure. The officers and crew left the island in a small junk kindly placed at their disposal, which took them to Chinghai, where they were hospitably received by the harbour-master, and from thence they came on to Shanghai. The owners place every confidence in the captain, who did his best, but he was unable to do anything in face of the very severe weather, and it is feared his ship is not the only one lost, as another is missing. The owners and agents of the *Satsuma* are Messrs. Morris & Co. The ship had a cargo of coal, the charterers being a Chinese firm and it is not known whether the cargo is insured, but the ship was not. She carried the usual number of crew and officers, the former being Manila men, who are now lodged in the Sailors' Home. The *Satsuma* was a wooden barque of 380 tons, duly registered, and was built in 1869 by J. Crown of Sunderland. She was, however, a good vessel and in excellent condition. Capt. Swenson had been in command we understand since 1885.—*Mercury*.

At Singapore on the 4th instant a European fireman on the *Glenfruin* died from heat apoplexy.

TAXES ON OPIUM.

It is incidental to our false position in China that occasionally, until an explanation is afforded, we should seem to make unreasonable request of the Chinese Government. The recent proposition of the provincial authorities to raise an extra tax on imported opium is a case in point. In July last certain British Indian houses engaged in the opium business complained that the provincial authorities were seeking to raise additional revenue for Indian opium over and above the amount fixed by the Chefoo Convention. The Taotai, to whom the complaint was referred by the Consul, had an answer ready which on the face of it seemed to do away with all cause of complaint. It was to the effect that the authorities did not seek to tax opium, but only to levy a licence fee on shops selling it, which was to be effected through the Opium Guild, and that therefore all opium would be equally affected, whether foreign or native, as both were sold in the shops. Such an answer might be fairly supposed to disarm hostile criticism. The Municipal Council of the Foreign Settlements, for instance, taxes opium shops, and no importer has complained of any interference with their rights under the Convention, and doubtless, did the Viceroy place such a licence fee on opium shops, there could be *ipso facto* little objection. But then comes the pith of the matter. The Viceroy and the Opium Guild have, through the Foreign Customs, accurate accounts of foreign opium imported and of such native as comes down from Szechuen in foreign ships. These two sources supply but a small amount of the opium consumed, the great bulk being carried in native craft or overland, and never having been subjected to any official supervision whatever. Such drug is not sold in recognised shops, but irregularly everywhere, and neither the Guild nor the authorities have the machinery to tax them. A regular tax would therefore mean a favouring of native untaxed opium at the expense of that regularly imported, and which has paid its proper dues; so that innocent as the suggestion seems, it would practically amount to levying another tax on the Indian drug. Fortunately we have reason to believe that the difficulties in the way of the proposed tax have seemed sufficient to prevent its being persevered in.—*Mercury*.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION IN NORTH-WEST CHINA.

The effects of the recent war with Japan have been most disastrous to the Chinese Government in a great many ways, but chiefly by the exposure of its utter corruptness and inefficiency, not only to foreign observers but also to its own people, whom the Government would gladly have kept in their former state of ignorance, as the knowledge gained of the imbecility and dishonesty of their own officials has roused a considerable amount of discontent among the masses of the Empire. A case in point is the insurrection in Huichow, Ch'aochow, and Chiayingchow, North Kuantung, which broke out last May at a spot scarcely four days' journey westward from Swatow, is gradually increasing in strength and numbers, and is also spreading towards the Fukien and Kiangsi provinces. But another, and at present more serious illustration of this discontent, is the Mahommedan rebellion now in active progress in Kansu and a portion of Shensi, which is of sufficient strength to successfully defy the combined territorial forces of the two provinces. Before dealing with this rebellion, however, it will be advisable to give a slight sketch of Mahommedanism in Northern China, showing the position of its followers as regards their Buddhist fellow-subjects and its standing at the present day, so far as our limited space will admit.

Chinese Mahommedanism has for long been so closely connected with the history of Central Asia, and particularly Chinese Turkestan, that one cannot well be separated from the other, and this connection has been of more special moment during the last thirty years. The

re-conquest of Kashgaria and a portion of Kuldja by the Imperial armies of China was completed in 1878 and for five years following the country was governed by martial law, nominally under the rule of the late Marquis Tso Tsung-tang, who obtained all the credit for the recovery of the country, being dignified by the title of "Conqueror of Kashgaria," though as the military administrator of the recently acquired territory he really never went farther west outside the Great Wall than the Mongol city of Hami—called Khan by Marco Polo—which is fully nine hundred miles east of Kashgar—the actual work of conquest having been effected by Liu Chin-t'ang. Prior to the Mahommedan rising, which took place in the sixties immediately after the suppression of the Taiping rebellion, the country had been governed by Manchus or Mongol Bannermen exclusively, precisely as was the case with Kokonor, Jehol, Tarbagatai, etc., in which districts no Chinese were eligible for office of any kind. The extortions and corruption of these officials provoked the intense hatred of the Mahommedans, who rose against them, and in the conflict which ensued nearly the entire Buddhist population was slaughtered or made slaves by the rebels. When this rebellion was suppressed by Liu Chin-t'ang and tranquility was once more secured, the Manchus made an effort to oust Tso Tsung-tang and his lieutenant from the positions gained by their prowess, and petitioned the Throne to appoint Tartar officials as formerly to administer the district and to dismiss all Chinese. The Emperor, however, wisely referred the question to Tso Tsung-tang, as the one best able to determine if such a change were desirable, and received in reply a memorial which has been characterised as a very gem of classical sarcasm, in which the Emperor was frankly informed that it was owing to the corrupt rule of the Tartar Bannermen that the rebellion had been provoked, which had resulted in the destruction of upwards of 120,000 Manchus and Chinese Buddhists, and that if his Majesty desired to lose Kashgaria once more the appointment of Manchu officials was the best way to bring it about, and that it would be impossible to reconquer a country so lost, because the Chinese would refuse to shed their blood for the benefit of worthless Manchu officials. Tso Tsung-tang went on to say that, after fifteen years' hard work to restore peace at the cost of much Chinese blood, he had no idea of surrendering the territory to those who were unable to hold it, and that the country must be governed by Chinese exactly like those parts of the Empire within the Great Wall.

In the meantime the Board of Reorganisation had been busy surveying the country and defining the limits of the various sub-prefectures, departments, and districts of the new province, so that by 1884 all was ready for the exchange of the military administration for a civil one; the requisite number of civil officials were then appointed and on Liu Chin-t'ang was conferred the post of first Governor of the New Dominion or Hsinchiang. In this was included the sub-provinces of Kuldja and Tarbagatai, the stronghold of the Kalmucks and of Buddhism in Mongolia, to whose loyalty it was owing that the Mahommedan rebels failed in their attempted invasion of China proper by way of Northern Mongolia and the grass plateaux.

The Chinese Mahommedans, or Tunganis, of the New Dominion settled down quietly to agricultural pursuits when the civil government was firmly established. They are of fine physique, but are very clannish, and find great enjoyment in recounting the glorious deeds of their ancestors, the legends about which have been carefully handed down from generation to generation; and though the Tunganis are gradually diminishing in number they still form a very large and important section of the community, who would be peaceably inclined if left in full enjoyment of their religion and were not oppressed by their rulers. But in spite of all they meet with constant opposition from the Buddhists, whose hardly suppressed desire, apparently, is to exterminate the Mahommedans altogether. In intellect and personal accomplishments the Tunganis are quite the equal and frequently the superior of the native Buddhist. Many Tunganis stand high in literary rank and attainments and they have several

Hanlins amongst them, but unfortunately for them the law provides that no civil official above the fourth rank (Taotai and Prefect) can be a Mahomedan, and the follower of Islam is bound to renounce his religion and conform to practices which Mahomedanism forbids on gaining the rank of Taotai or Prefect. A military officer who is a Mahomedan can only attain the rank of captain, and if promoted to that of major or higher rank must renounce his religion. In the case of both civilian and military appointments the official would be compelled to burn incense at Buddhist temples on the 1st and 15th day of the moon. The late Viceroy of Nanking, Ma, was a Mahomedan until he reached the rank of Taotai, and the late General Tso Pao-kuei, who was killed at Ping-yang during the war with Japan, was at one time a Mahomedan, and despite their recantation both these men were to the last looked upon as Mahomedans by the followers of Islam.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE IMPORTATION OF COOLIE LABOUR IN BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

It is much to be regretted that the efforts of the Government to obtain immigrant labour upon cheaper terms than have hitherto prevailed have not been more cordially backed by the planting community of the Territory. The planters base their lukewarmness chiefly on the allegation that it is impossible to obtain a class of labourer as good as those brought down at existing rates for the reduced figure offered by the Government. No coolies, with one exception, have come forward under the arrangement proposed and this objection strikes us as somewhat "too previous." Meanwhile it may be interesting to state that the agent in Hongkong for some of the estates rejected over a hundred men, brought forward by the Government officer sent there at \$34 per head, and a few days afterwards sent the same men down to an estate at a cost of over \$60 per head. No complaint was made that these men were of inferior physique or otherwise unsuitable. It is obvious that nothing short of direct Government importation, involving responsibilities which those in power perhaps reasonably hesitate to undertake, would successfully work against opposition of this nature. In the exceptional case above referred to seventeen men were sent down under protest from the Protector of Chinese, who did not think them sufficiently up to the mark. He allowed himself to be overruled on the ground that it would break the ice towards working the new scheme, and it is no doubt to be regretted that he thus played into the hands of those whose "vested interests" would have been seriously damaged by the adoption of a reduced tariff.

The planters therefore still continue to draw their labour supplies from Hongkong and Singapore under the old system, the only aid afforded by the Government being the issue of licences to recruiters so as to have some means of checking any improper action on the part of the licensees. Whether the planters have been wise in refusing to support a scheme which if successful would have saved from \$20 to \$25 per head, i.e., \$25,000 per 1,000 coolies, is a matter which they will doubtless argue out with their shareholders at home. The great majority are not of British nationality and have large discretionary powers in the matter of the labour supply. But even supposing that they have a justification, not quite apparent at the moment, it seems a pity that a longer trial was not given to the Government proposals. The recent fall in the tobacco prices accentuates the necessity of saving as much as possible in the way of labour wages. Messrs. Shaw and van Buren, who consistently supported the attempts made to introduce a more economical system, are unfortunately absent from the territory. Had each estate consented to try say twenty-five men, the result even if unsuccessful would not have been ruinous, while it might have been quite successful. Whether competition between the licensees will effect a partial saving remains to be seen.—*North Borneo Herald*.

THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND THE SECRET SOCIETY PLEA.

The atrocious wholesale murder at Kutien has a deeper political significance than any of the numerous similar attacks made upon foreigners since the beginning of our relations with China. It has far surpassed all such events since the Tientsin massacre in deliberate and cold-blooded horror, and in one very important respect it is even worse than the Tientsin massacre. Those who are acquainted with the details of the great northern tragedy will recollect that it was attended and in large measure occasioned by a genuine popular mistrust and indignation, and that the population of the whole city was roused to mistaken but earnest rage. In the case of Kutien nothing of the kind has taken place. This deed of bloody savagery, by whomsoever instigated, was plotted and executed by a band of eighty men, apparently not supported by public feeling at all. It took place not at a time of excitement, but, so far as the district was concerned, of quiet and order. There was nothing about it at all resembling the wild and passionate outburst of a reckless mob. Again, as in the case of the Szechuen outrages, yet more markedly so, it is *prima facie* in no sense a popular riot, having a spontaneous origin, but a calculated act, behind which will be found a few malicious fiendish spirits, who contrived the horrible murder and, so far as it was needed, paved the way for it by misleading and terrorizing the people.

But a new feature has been added to diversify the programme in the present instance. The "Vegetarians" have been trotted out. When we first heard that the butchery was committed by members of the Vegetarian society we were lost in amaze. We had never heard of such a sect and its existence appeared to us in the highest degree improbable. For, roundly speaking, the whole Chinese nation are theoretically Vegetarian. Not only, as is well known, are Buddhist and Taoist teachings heavily saturated with maxims and teachings prohibiting the ultimate principle, which is a household word—"to love all living things," and through the doctrine of metempsychosis the most terrible punishments are held over the head of the offender; so that having eaten a fowl in the next generation he may expect himself to be the unhappy pullet untimely brought to the table; or, having killed a snake, in a future incarnation he may look to crawl supine in the dust and fear for the heel of the wayfarer; but these ideals have permeated Confucianism itself to such an extent that a very limited slaughter of animals is allowed by law, and those who do not practice abstinence from flesh themselves spontaneously admit—to borrow religious phraseology from the Occident—that "they are on the down grade," and revere the superior sanctity of abstainers, looking up to them as the sanctified ones who have "obtained the second blessing." There seems therefore no *raison d'être* for the formation of a special Vegetarian society, and if such were formed murder and violence should be its last objects.

But the evidence now to hand renders it quite certain that this dangerous society does exist. In an article in the *N. C. Daily News* dated the 12th August, its objects are said to be twofold—to overthrow the present Government and to drive foreigners out of the country. It is said to be augmenting with great rapidity and to have its headquarters at Chinkiang. It is characterized by the high-handedness of its proceedings and the unhesitating obedience with which the orders of its leaders are carried out. It is represented as a violent revolutionary, reactionary movement. But why Vegetarian? It is the name which puzzles us by its sublime incongruousness. It reminds one of "Stony Stratford," of which, *videlicet* Sydney Smith, the traveller, remarked, "It was no wonder they called it Stony Stratford, for he had been troubled all night with fleas."

It may be expected that great use will be made of this Vegetarian society in shielding the officials from blame and exculpating the Chinese Government. It will be made the stalking horse for all offences. These tactics are familiar

to us. In 1891-92 it was the Ko-lao-hui. Now it is the Vegetarian society. The poor mandarins are but the victims of circumstance, and how unreasonable to hold them responsible for the acts of societies which are plotting against the Government and are the common enemy of the officials and of foreigners! And with the old complaisance our foreign ministers, who live to adorn the history of our relations with this country by their incompetence, will fall in with the explanation, and the innocent blood of martyrs will again be compounded for by the gill, or rather in this case by the gallon, at so many pieces of silver. The affair will blow over and their promotion, pension, &c., from a grateful country will be unprejudiced.

Now the whole of this secret society plea is a bogus affair from beginning to end. All this pretence at fear of a revolution is hollow and hypocritical. The Chinese mandarins know well enough that this is utterly beyond the range of possibility. As one, the greatest among them, remarked the other day of a rebellion which had broken out—"These things are put down with very little trouble." There does not exist any society in China to-day which seriously contemplates the overthrow of the dynasty. Neither Ko Lao Hui, or Vegetarian, or Pai Lien Hui, or Mi Mi so much as dreams of it. For what purpose these societies were originated it is difficult to say, but, if revolution was their object, they have long since lost sight of it. They subserve a difficult purpose altogether. China is incapable of a revolution. She is too rotten for it. There is not good faith enough in any single heart in China to render one possible. We believe that most of these societies are strongly reactionary and therefore anti-foreign; but their ambitions are much lower than a new dynasty. They are military and official clubs having as their chief object to strengthen their members in the everlasting whirl of intrigue which makes up the life of Chinese society. So far from being anti-official they have their source amongst the official classes. This is the all-important thing to remember. In dealing with the secret societies we are dealing with the officials over again. There is an ambiguity when we speak of the official classes of China. As is well known the country teems with countless thousands, far exceeding the men, at any given time, who are actually in office, but, who as expectant officials or for occasional service, are attached to the yamens and wield much of the influence of officialdom and perhaps are the chief instigators of these very sinister schemes. They occupy a position of "greater freedom and less responsibility" than that of the man actually in office. Their whole life is one of machination and treachery—must be, in order to "raise the wind" and make ends meet. These men give the secret societies their strength. Hence, when a rising of a secret society has to be suppressed, an official is despatched with a troop of soldiers, but that is only "look, see!" The serious business is to effect a compromise with men of his own set, with whom the official despatched is probably in full sympathy and this explains the endless temporizing and dilly-dallying in all this business. In "Videlicet's" letter to the *N. C. Daily News*, of the 12th, he makes a significant observation in reference to a previous trouble in Chinkiang, the Vegetarian headquarters. "The matter was never reported to the Consul, as the Taotai was a member of the society and settled without it. Our acting Taotai of this circuit and three district magistrates of this district have been (*sic*) members of this society." When someone in the south asked who was the head of the Ko Lao Hui, the reply was, Chang Chih-tung.

All attempt on the part of the mandarins to shelter themselves behind the secret societies must be stubbornly resisted. They must be held responsible for the acts of these disreputable cliques—for that is all they are—which for their own treacherous purposes they have created. The key of the whole question lies in a nutshell; its solution is easy. Official responsibility saddled on to them and the girths pulled tight and reprisals every time it is violated. The whole anti-foreign conspiracy will break immediately we apply this weapon. There is much dreadful nonsense talked about requiring

us to prove this, prove that, and prove the other: a very difficult process as everyone knows, seeing every Chinaman will lie to any extent rather than offend an official. To take an instance. The other day a writer in one of the Shanghai papers referred, among other items, to the children in a cage story which was Liu Ping-chang's official report of the Szechuen outbreak, and which first appeared in this paper, and the sapient remark was made that if this could be proved the official would be incriminated. Now, as everyone knows, even in an honest country, there is a wide difference between legal and moral evidence. In China the gulf is unspeakable. *There is not a shadow of doubt* that the statement is true, but we question if we could prove it. But this is all nonsensical talk. What then, in the name of common sense, is the meaning of a Treaty? Have we not proved our case when we have proved the wrong? By Treaty has not the Chinese Government solemnly pledged itself to discover and to punish the wrong doer? Away with this idiotic nonsense about our proving this and that particular! The proof is the burning buildings of Chengtu, the ashes of which are yet hot; and the pool of red blood at Kucheng, with which the garments of Chinese officials and foreign ministers alike are dyed with crimson guilt and crimson shame until full reparation has been made. Do we need to prove that without the faintest provocation, the foulest and bloodiest wrong has been inflicted on British subjects, a wrong such as England never yet, since she was a nation, has suffered to pass unavenged? Shall this go unrequited?—*Peking and Tientsin Times.*

HONGKONG.

Interesting news this week has been chiefly confined to the proceedings in the Supreme Court, where several important cases have been disposed of. The Sanitary Board met on Thursday. At present there is every prospect of a water famine in the colony as both reservoirs are very low, and the dry season will soon commence. Everybody is wishing for a small deluge.

The Governor in Council has directed that a general valuation under the Rating Ordinance for the year commencing 1st July, 1896, shall be made on or before the 30th April next.

An extraordinary meeting of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited, will be held on the 30th inst. to consider a resolution for the reduction of the capital by a return to shareholders of \$5 per share, reducing the nominal amount of all the shares from \$20 to \$15.

Leasehold property at 17, 19, 21, 23, and 25, Wing Fung Street was put up for sale by auction on Friday afternoon by Mr. Armstrong. There was only one bid of \$5,525, and the lot was accordingly withdrawn. Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master were the solicitors in the matter.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that no rent for the use of water metres will be charged in respect of water supplied to premises in the Hill District or Kowloon, except in cases of piers and wharves or where the buildings are used as hotels or for purposes of trade, or have a stable or cowshed within their curtilage, or where the consumption of water exceeds the prescribed domestic quantity.

No fewer than twenty-five illicit opium dealers were charged at the Magistracy on Monday, before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, with having opium in their possession. Fines varying from \$2 to \$250 were imposed. The defendant fined the highest amount is the comprador of the steamer *Nestor*. He smuggled his opium in a very ingenious fashion. He screwed a false bottom on a small insignificant looking tub and thereby concealed 50 taels.

In a rifle match between Selangor and British North Borneo we notice that Mr. E. L. Woodin, firing for British North Borneo, made the top score for his side, namely, 77. The ranges were 100, 200, and 400 yards; seven shots at each. Through some misunderstanding the Sandakan team included eight men, whilst the Selangor team had seven only. The former shot with the Snider, the latter with the Martini-Henry. The total scores were, Selangor 567, British North Borneo 551.

We are informed by the Secretary of the New Balmoral Gold Mining Company, Limited, that letters from the mines, per steamer *Changsha*, under date of the 17th August, advise the leasing of another battery adjoining the Queen mine at which it is expected the Company will be able to crush some 450 tons monthly of payable ore from September onwards.

By the last mail letters were received by the Plague Recognition Committee advising that all the medals ordered by the Committee have been completed and despatched as follows:—

Gold	Silver	Destination
31	143	Hongkong
13	366	Calcutta
—	113	Shrewsbury

Total ... 44 622

Mr. Wyon's account amounts to £555.

A match between Lord C. Conyngham's Glenties and Mr. Hart Buck's Voltigeur was run on Friday afternoon at the Happy Valley before a good number of spectators. Glenties got away with a lead, but at the three-quarter mile post Voltigeur went to the front, and going up the hill he increased his lead and won by seven lengths. After this event was over Mr. Max Grote, for a wager of \$100, accepted a challenge for a go-as-you-please race round the course against time. The distance is over seven furlongs and he had to make it in less than twelve minutes. The journey was accomplished ten minutes six seconds.

The rules for the Hongkong Football Challenge Cup have been published. The cup will be of the value of \$100. The competition will commence next November and must be completed by the 31st March next. The competition is open to the army, the navy, and all local clubs. The Rifle Brigade is to play in the competition by companies, but after the cup has been won the winning team has to play the combined team of the Rifle Brigade. The committee of management is composed as follows:—Mr. E. F. Mackay, Mr. P. G. Davies, R.A., Mr. L. T. Sanderson, R.B., Mr. T. L. Barnardiston, R.N., and Mr. F. Browne (Hon. Secretary).

There was a lively coolie fight at the Peak on Sunday afternoon. A gang of earth coolies were at work near the junior mess of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Some chair coolies passed and at the same time a woman. One of the coolies addressed to her some remarks of a nature not to be tolerated by polite Chinese society. The lady had friends amongst the opposite party and the incident led to a conflict between the earth coolies and chair coolies. At first the latter got much the worst of it, being in smaller number, but reinforcements arrived, and after a good deal of stone throwing the tide of battle turned against the earth coolies. A couple of policemen arrived on the scene, however, and a number of the rowdies were taken into custody and marched off to the station. They were brought before the Magistrate on Monday and remanded. Rather exaggerated reports of the amount of damage done got into circulation, and it was said one man had been killed and a number so severely injured that they had to be taken to the hospital, but as a matter of fact no one seems to have been very much hurt.

At 7 p.m. on the 14th inst. a fire broke out in an iron foundry, named Chan Hing, in San Tau Lan Street, West Gate district, Canton. Gongs were at once beaten to give the alarm and the fire engines were promptly on the scene. It happened, however, that the brooks in the vicinity had dried up and the supply of water was therefore insufficient. The fire soon spread to the neighbouring houses right and left and reduced everything that stood in its way to ashes. A great number of boats which had been left high and dry on the river bund on account of the low tide also caught fire and some thirty of them were burnt. The Governor reached the scene very promptly with a large number of armed soldiers and lictors. He gave notice that if any robberies should occur the plunderers would be executed on the spot. The officials who accompanied his Excellency were the General, Provincial Judge, Commissioner, Prefect, Magistrates, and Lieutenants. The fire was not got under until one o'clock. The number of houses burnt was about a hundred and twenty and a barber is reported missing. Some thirty pigs were burnt to death.

There were 1,698 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 117 were Europeans.

Dr. Clarke, the new Medical Officer of Health, arrived on Saturday by the *Monmouthshire*, accompanied by Mrs. Clarke and child.

The death rate last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 19.8, and for the Chinese community 24.9.

A parcel post service between Hongkong and Canada via Vancouver has been arranged and will come into force on the 1st October.

The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance for 1894 and the Ordinance to amend Ordinance 17 of 1887 have been approved by Her Majesty.

The reduction in the Bank rate of interest on loans from seven to six per cent., which we stated a day or two ago had been decided upon, has now been officially announced.

The maximum temperature last month was 90.1, on the 24th, and the minimum 75.1 on the 10th and 11th, the mean for the whole month being 81.4. The rainfall amounted to 6.125 inches.

A Chinese servant from No. 1, Mosque Junction was admitted into the Netherhole Hospital on the 10th inst. suffering from plague. The patient, a youth fifteen years of age, was transferred to the Kennedytown Hospital and is now under treatment there.

The winner of the competition for Captain McCallum's Cup, held last Saturday at Kowloon Police range, was Gunner Rutter, with an excellent score of 85, with 12 points added (total 97). By this score Gunner Rutter also won the Wallace Cup for the second time.

ANPING.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

9th September.

From Chinese accounts the Japanese appear to be stationary in the vicinity of Changwha, but a move southwards may be made at any moment, in which case the march to Tainanfoo will not take long. A Japanese transport steamed past the port this morning, apparently with a view of selecting a landing, and there is no doubt that a force will be put on shore to co-operate with the advancing army.

The citizens of Tainanfoo are in a state of the greatest alarm, as the Japanese appear to be driving a rabble in front of them, bent on murder and plunder, and the country north of the city is reported to be in a state of anarchy.

The British Consul has warned his subjects against remaining at Anping while the Japanese take possession, but there is no man-of-war here to afford protection, and it does seem extraordinary that the port should be abandoned at the most critical time in the whole progress of the Formosan troubles.

SANDAKAN.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

6th September.

On the 19th August there was considerable excitement here when it was reported that Mat Sallie, a Badjow, who had previously given the Bornean Government trouble, had appeared in Sandakan harbour with something like thirty-five native craft, manned with close upon a hundred of his followers, all being fully armed. The ostensible motive of Mat Sallie's demonstration was to lodge a complaint with the Government, but as he committed an illegal act by coming with an armed force he was forbidden to land. The whole fleet then retreated to Bahaha, a small island at the entrance of this harbour. Mr. Cook, the officer in charge—H. E. the Governor being absent on a visit to Darvel Bay—took every precaution to prevent an attack on the town should that have been the Badjow's intention. Two steam launches with a posse of Sikh police patrolled the harbour and bays all night, but Mat Sallie made no further sign, and in the morning it was reported that he had proceeded with the whole of his fleet in the direction of the Labuk river.

H. E. the Governor having returned on the 26th ult. the Government yacht was available to proceed in pursuit of the renegades, and on the 29th she was despatched with Mr. E. H. Barrant, District Magistrate, and Mr. Jones,

Superintendent of Police, with fifty Sikhs, who had instructions to capture the man dead or alive. The expedition returned on the 3rd September, having discovered Mat Sallie's compung (native village) at Tambonger, in Paitan Bay, where he had the place stockaded and was otherwise strongly fortified.

The villagers having been demanded to deliver up Mat Sallie replied with a few shots. Hostilities then commenced in earnest, and after a rather smart skirmish Mat Sallie and his men were completely routed. With the small force at his command Mr. Jones did not consider it prudent to pursue the enemy into the jungle. After looting the compung it was destroyed. On our side one Sikh was badly wounded. The casualties of the enemy could not be ascertained; they were no doubt heavy, for over 500 shots were fired. Further steps to be taken to secure the marauder are being considered.

The Spanish cruiser *Marques del Duero*, Captain Carlos Delgard, carrying the flag of Commodore Don Juan Gustadi, arrived from Sulu on the 4th inst. in search of twenty-five mutineers, who had escaped from the Island of Cagayon. It appears that the soldiers stationed at Tavo-tavo (Cagayon Sulu) mutinied and shot several of their non-commissioned officers. Twenty-five of the men escaped with arms and \$1,000 in a small boat and from information received the Spanish authorities had reason to believe they were in hiding at a village named Silam in Darvel Bay. The Spanish commodore therefore called in here to obtain permission from the Government to search the place in question for the runaways. The Spanish cruiser left for Silam on the 5th in company with the Government yacht *Petrel*, with twenty Sikh police under the command of the Superintendent, Mr. Jones, to support any action the commodore may think necessary to arrest the twenty-five mutineers.

TIENTSIN.

7th September.

A private letter from Peking states that the number of deaths from cholera in the capital amounts to 59,000.

The *El Dorado* on her last two trips has taken 165 griffins to Shanghai and the *Wosang*, expected at the Bund to-morrow, will take forward other thirty.

We hear that Lieutenant Taylor, R.A., of Hongkong, is here on his way to Mongolia with an Australian mare he has brought up with a view to an experiment in horse breeding.

In Peking we learn there is great regret amongst foreigners and Chinese that Li Hung-chang has had to give up the Viceroyship of Chihli, and a general consensus of opinion that his downfall has been caused by his having followed during the war the advice of a notorious Customs Taotai and his satellites. It is to be sincerely hoped that the new Viceroy will take warning and judge each question carefully by himself uninfluenced by the counsels of this successor to Machiavelli.

The wounded Hunan and Hupei soldiers who, having come from Shanhaikuan by train, were sent to the French hospital in the French Settlement for treatment, have been successfully cured. Being grateful to the hospital, one honourable tablet, on which the four characters "En Shih Wo Chun" (which means kindness to our soldiers) are carved, and another tablet with the characters "Yi Yu Hua Ping" (which means Chinese soldiers have been cured with success), have been presented to the hospital by the above-mentioned soldiers, and have been placed or hung on the top of the hospital door.

Sheng Taotai, with the approval of His Excellency Wang Wen-shao, has decided to establish a foreign University at Tientsin, with which there will also be connected a Preparatory Department. It is expected that Preparatory Schools, similar to the one established here, will be opened in other localities of North China, and they will be, to a certain extent, under the management of the Tientsin University. Besides a general scientific course, the University will provide special courses in civil engineering, electrical engineering, mining, mechanical engineering, and law, for which expert foreign professors will be engaged, to be assisted by native professors and teachers of

foreign education. The University will be under the control of Chinese directors and a foreign President. It is understood that the directors will be the Hon. Wu Ting-fang and Tsai Chao-chi, Esq. The position of President has been accepted by Charles D. Tenney, Esq. Three classes of the Preparatory Department and the lowest class in the College will be filled this autumn by examinations, soon to be held by Mr. Tenney, in Tientsin, Shanghai, and Hongkong. One of the foreign professors has already been sent for, and will arrive in Tientsin before the closing of the river. The University will occupy the "Po Wen Shu Yuan" building, which has been secured by Sheng Taotai for this purpose.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A small daily paper has been started at Nagasaki called the *Nagasaki Observer and Daily Reporter*. The *Rising Sun* and *Nagasaki Express* has also commenced a daily issue under the title of the *Nagasaki Shipping List*.

The *Kobe Chronicle* learns that the German steamer *Fidelio* was transferred to the Japanese flag on 30th ult. and re-named the *Hokomaru*. The buyer is Mr. Hachima Kanesuke of Nishinomiya, who is said to have paid £10,500 for the vessel. The sale was conducted by Messrs. Sennett & Co., the late charterers of the steamer.

Major Hughes has sold his fine steam yacht, the *Satanella*, which has been so familiar a feature of Kobe harbour of the past year or two, for \$10,000. The purchasers are the Amoor Steam Navigation Co. and she is intended for the local trade at Nickolaieff. The company is expecting a few steam launches from England and Belgium for the same trade.

There was a storm at Shanghai on the 5th inst. which did a good deal of damage to the trees on the Bund and along the outlying roads, but fortunately, says the *China Gazette*, no serious accidents have to be reported as a result of the gale. There was a very high tide which came half-way up the Bund fore-shore and regularly flooded some of the low-lying roads in Hongkew; the water rushed up at a tremendous rate through the drains, and in some places covered the thoroughfares to the depth of nearly a foot.

A native paper states that Li Hung-chang arrived in Peking on the 21st of August and took up his quarters in the Yenlang Buddhist temple, where he spent several quiet days without engaging in public business, until midnight of the 27th. He then sent a memorial through the Privy Cabinet Office to the Throne begging for audience. On the morning of the 28th he waited for an Imperial order in Luk-hong Hall at the gate of the Western Palace, where he received refreshments. Later on he received an Imperial Order through the Grand Council to interview His Majesty. He at once entered the Kim Chengtien, where he was personally questioned by the Emperor concerning Chinese and foreign affairs. The interview was a short one, but it is said that the following day he sent to the Throne a long memorial, which hitherto has been kept private.—*Mercury*.

About half-past nine o'clock on the morning of the 29th August a fire broke out in a stone godown belonging to Messrs. Eyton and Pratt at No. 77, Main Street, Yokohama. Information having been given at the Fire Station, Supt. Morgan and his men immediately proceeded to the scene with a hose reel and a steamer, but on their arrival it was found that the fire had been extinguished by the owners before much damage was done. The firemen, however, played water on the building for a few minutes. The fire, the *Japan Gazette* says, arose under rather peculiar circumstances. It seems Messrs Eyton and Pratt had arranged to sell by auction a number of rifles, and while these were being brought in Mr. Eyton, who happened to be on the spot, noticed a box being carried into the godown. He enquired "What is that?" and the coolie for reply dropped the box on to the floor of the godown. The box, as it happened, contained percussion caps, and the box no sooner reached the ground than its contents exploded. Fortunately there was no other box in the godown or the results might have been much more serious.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Canton and Macao	3,999,383	3,528,271
Foochow	10,834,979	13,785,756
Shanghai and Hankow ...	14,130,427	13,651,571
	28,964,789	30,965,598

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Amoy	6,630,827	9,354,600
Foochow	6,045,150	3,431,032
Shanghai	14,171,623	14,890,838
	26,847,600	27,676,470

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	26,706,242	22,522,550

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96 lbs.	1894-95 lbs.
Yokohama	24,005,252	27,719,037
Kobe	14,710,662	11,965,437
	38,745,914	39,684,474

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 12th September.—(From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's circular.)—London telegrams dated 10th current report the market "firm" at unchanged prices, viz., Gold Kiling at 8/3, Blue Elephants at 10/3. Raw Silk.—A fair business has been passing, and the market on the whole is firm. Holders show no disposition to sell under current market rates. Tsatlees.—Buyers have been able to obtain a small concession on No. 5 grades, whereas the better qualities have been sold at unaltered prices. Gold Kiling have changed hands at Tls. 345, and Blue Elephants at Tls. 427½. Taysaams.—The demand for coarse Silk has continued throughout the week, and the prices paid show in some instances an advance. Yellow Silks.—Continue in favour both for India and the Continent, but prices show no material alteration. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns from the 5th to the 11th instant, are 2,302 bales of White, 406 bales of Yellow and 189 bales of Wild Silk. Re-reels and Filatures.—Nothing doing in Re-reels. In Filatures further contracts have been made to the extent of about 400 bales in Tsatlees and Haining Croisés at full rates. Some business has also passed in market Filatures for the Continent. Wild Silks.—Remain in demand at unchanged quotations. Waste Silks.—Business shows some improvement, and fair quantities of Szechuen Frisonets and Rat Tails (whole bales) have changed hands at Tls. 18½ to 20 for the former, and at Tls. 16 for the latter. Small transactions have taken place in Yuhong pierced Cocoons 74 to 75 per cent. Silk at Tls. 67½, and in Woosie pierced Cocoons 70 per cent. Silk at Tls. 58½. Curlies are neglected and Tussah materials are not in stock. Pongees.—Are quiet and neglected.

Purchases include:—Tsatlees.—Blue Elephant at Tls. 427½, Yellow Elephant at Tls. 397½, Large Elephant 4 at Tls. 375, Gold Kiling at Tls. 345. Taysaam.—Gr. Kahing M at Tls. 332½, 9/22 Moss Green Stork 1 at Tls. 336½, do. Gold Bear Extra 1 at Tls. 245. Yellow Silk.—Shantung Skeins Blue Goat at Tls. 260, Mienchew at Tls. 255 to Tls. 260, Meeyang at Tls. 230 to Tls. 235, Wongchow at Tls. 181½. Filature.—Hon Koh-hang Haining 1 and 2 at Tls. 525 to 515, Buffalo chop 1, 2 and 3 at Tls. 510, Tls. 500 and Tls. 490, Market chop at Tls. 480. Wild Silk.—Tussah Raw at Tls. 132½ to Tls. 152½.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96 bales.	1894-95 bales.
Shanghai	23,466	14,438
Canton	5,808	4,040
Yokohama	7,843	11,152
	37,117	29,630

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN
TO AMERICA.

	1895-96 bales.	1894-95 bales.
Canton	4,044	3,283
Shanghai	3,478	1,901
Yokohama	6,661	16,441
	14,183	21,625

CAMPION.

HONGKONG, 17th September.—The market has ruled irregular during the past week. Quotations for Formosa are \$87.50 to \$80.00. During the past week sales have been 100 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 17th September.—Holders are again firmer and prices show a slight recovery. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.25 to 7.27	per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.88 to 6.90	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.77 to 4.80	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.62 to 4.66	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.15 to 7.18	"
do. " 2, White...	6.79 to 6.80	"
do. " 1, Brown...	4.42 to 4.45	"
Swatow, No. 2, Brown...	4.25 to 4.28	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	10.25 to 10.40	"
Shekloong "	8.77 to 8.80	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The American bark *Georgia S. Homer*, Hongkong to New York, 7th September, took:—13,516 rolls Matting, 2,560 cases P. L. Fans, 394 packages Rattan chairs, 197 cases Blackwoodware, and 50 cases Ginger; in transit for Canada:—519 packages Tea.

The steamer *Glenavon*, Hongkong to London, 10th September, took:—4,532 boxes Tea (68,712 lbs. Scented Caper, 26,460 lbs. Congo), 1,764 cases Preserves, 200 bales Waste Silk, 150 cases Soy, 100 cases Preserves, 34 cases Blackwoodware, 25 cases Vermillion, 26 cases Lily Bulbs, 24 packages Chinaware, 11 packages Private Effects, and 6 cases Curios.

The British ship *Fort Stuart*, Hongkong to New York, 11th September, took:—27,544 rolls Matting, 6,631 packages Tea, 2,500 packages Fire Crackers, 684 bales Strawbricks, 400 cases Fans, 225 cases Woodware, 197 cases Wool, 180 bales Rattanware, and 640 packages Merchandise.

The P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, Hongkong to London, 12th September, took:—4 cases Essential Oil, 19 cases Cigars, 1,000 bales Hemp, 60 bales Raw Silk, 4 cases Silk Piece Goods, 20 cases Bristles, 4 cases Sundries, 8,909 boxes Tea (20,202 lbs. Congo, 158,109 lbs. Scented Caper, 8,778 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe); for Buenos Ayres:—230 packages Tea; for Milan:—20 bales Raw Silk; for France:—450 bales Raw Silk, 68 bales Pierced Cocoons, 2 cases Silk Piece Goods, and 100 packages Tea.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 17th September.—Bengal.—A further advance has taken place in prices, owing to holders continuing firm. Current rates are \$712½ for New Patna, \$700 for Old Patna, \$705 for New Benares, and \$675 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—A small business has been done in this drug during the past week. The market closes steady at the following figures:—

New

Old (2 years)

Older

Persian.—Good kinds continue in demand, prices closing steady at \$670 to \$710 for Oily and \$760 to \$855 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna

Old Patna

New Benares

Old Benares

Malwa

Persian

COUSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE. PATNA. BENARES. MALWA.

1895. \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

Sept. 12 708½ 700 697½ 68½ 700 730/75

Sept. 13 707½ 700 700 68½ 700 730/750

Sept. 14 7.0 700 700 685 700 730/750

Sept. 15 710 700 700 685 700 730/750

Sept. 16 712½/715 700 705 675 700 730/750

Sept. 17 713½/715 700 705 675 700 730/750

RICE.

HONGKONG, 17th September.—Owing to the long continued drought holders are firm and prices are advancing. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.08 to 2.10
" Round, good quality	2.41 to 2.44
" Long	2.55 to 2.57
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.10 to 2.12
" Garden, " No. 1	2.54 to 2.56
Siam White	3.12 to 3.15
" Fine Cargo	3.22 to 3.25

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 17th September.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—75 bales No. 8 at \$65 to \$67.50 525 bales No. 10 at \$71 to \$77.50, 350 bales No. 12 at \$72 to \$76, 245 bales No. 16 at \$81 to \$85, 555 bales No. 20 at \$82 to \$85. *Grey Shirtings*.—1,400 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.78, 1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Fish at \$2.17½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.27½, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Flower Vase at \$3.72½, 500 pieces Stag Chop at \$3.70, 500 pieces 11 lbs. Flower Chop at \$3.25, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Hunter at \$3.05, 500 pieces 10 lbs. K.K. at \$3.10, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Shoemaker at \$2.35, 300 pieces Red Lion and Flag at \$2.37½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.37½, 350 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.78. *White Shirtings*.—1,250 pieces Gold Goose at \$3.95, 500 pieces S.T. at \$3.50, 2,500 pieces S.Q. at \$4.05, 2,500 pieces S.S. at \$4.30, 3,000 pieces Flower Chop at \$4.60, 500 pieces Spearman at \$5, 250 pieces No. 1, 750 Str. at \$3.35, 1,000 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.60, 1,000 pieces Gold Joss at \$3.12½, 500 pieces D. 70 at \$3.35, 1,000 pieces 48 Red Stag Horn at \$2.15, 1,000 pieces R.R.R.R. at \$4.15, 150 pieces D. K. at \$4.55, 150 pieces E.K. at \$5.55, 300 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.35, 500 pieces K.K. at \$3.77½, 500 pieces Soldier Chop at \$2.50, 500 pieces No. 4, 000 2 Fish at \$3.20, 500 pieces No. 100 at \$2.10. *T-Cloths*.—1,125 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Red Stag at \$2.25½, 1,500 pieces 8 lbs. Hunter and Stag C. C. at \$2.90, 1,200 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. V. V. at \$2.77½, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.57½, 500 pieces 6 lbs. Bombay at \$1.60. *Drills*.—1,200 pieces 14 lbs. Peacock at \$3.52½, 300 pieces 14 lbs. Dragon at \$3.75. *Long Ells*.—450 pieces 7 lbs. Scarlet at \$6.30, 1,000 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$6.79, 700 pieces 9 lbs. Scarlet at \$6.90.

METALS.—Iron.—2,500 piculs Scrap at \$2.15, 1,680 piculs old telegraphic ropes at \$2.80.

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	\$62.00 to \$86.00
English—Nos. 16 to 21	97.00 to 100.00
" 22 to 24	97.50 to 103.00
" 28 to 32	105.00 to 110.00
" 38 to 42	116.00 to 124.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	1.25 to 1.35
7lbs.	1.75 to 2.00
8.4 lbs.	1.95 to 2.90
9 to 10 lbs.	3.10 to 3.75
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.00 to 2.25
58 to 60 "	2.40 to 3.00
64 to 66 "	3.10 to 3.50
Fine	3.80 to 6.30
Book-folds.	2.50 to 5.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.58 to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.	1.30 to 1.35
7lbs. (32 ") ..	1.72 to 1.90
6lbs. (32 ") Mex.	1.50 to 1.60
7lbs. (32 ") ..	1.95 to 2.20
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.)	2.15 to 2.90
Drills, English—40 yds. 13½ to 14lbs.	3.00 to 4.10

FANCY COTTONS.

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs.	1.30 to 2.85
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Brocades—Dyed	3.65 to 4.50
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Damasks	0.12 to 0.16
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Chintzes—Assorted	3.07 to 0.11
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Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.20 to 0.30
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Velveteens—18 in.	0.17 to 0.20
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Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.40 to 0.80
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WOOLLENS.

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.55 to 0.85
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Gorman	0.95 to 1.10
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Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	1.20 to 2.60
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Long Ells—Scarlet	6.30 to 7.40
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Assorted	6.40 to 7.50
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Camlets—Assorted	13.00 to 29.00
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Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	13.50 to 21.00
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Orleans—Plain	3.70 to 4.90
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Blankets—8 to 12lbs.	4.50 to 9.00
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METALS.

Iron—Nail Rod	2.85 to —
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Square, Flat Round Bar ...	2.85 to —
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Swedish Bar	4.40 to —
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Small Round Rod	3.00 to 3.05
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Hoop	4.00 to —
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Old Wire Rope	3.00 to —
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Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	6.30 to 6.35
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Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.	25.00 to —
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Vivian's, 16/32 oz.	24.50 to —
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Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	24.50 to —
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Tin	36.40 to —
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Tin-Plates	5.30 to —
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Steel	5.00 to —
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SUNDRIES.

Quicksilver	118.50 to 119.00
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Window Glass	8.20 to —
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Kerosene Oil	1.88 to —
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SHANGHAI, 12th September.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noel's report.)—There is considerably more movement to report in spot cargo this week, and also in goods for near arrival, but the more forward transactions have been greatly curtailed by the enormous rise that has taken place in the home markets, although not altogether stopped.

Cotton continues to advance, being quoted now 4½d. in Liverpool and 8½ cents. gold in New York, and manufacturers are following its upward course in their demands, the question now being where it is going to stop? Prices current here are ridiculously low compared to what goods indented for recently lay down at, but the bulk have been settled on a sterling basis, which makes it look very much as though the natives are speculating on an important rise in silver in the near future. If the reverse occurs there will be great grief amongst them. A good deal of attention has been paid again to American makes, the stocks of which are running down, especially Sheetings, and the prospective supply of these is very light. Small parcels, of more or less outside cloths, are being offered from the States at what look to be dangerously high prices, but in the absence of the standard chops they will probably have to be accepted, and even during the last few days prices for such have gone up fully a mace. Drills are at present in most demand, and sales of the standard brand have been made during the week at gradually hardening rates, culminating in a rise of a mace, with holders of the remaining few declining to go on except at a further advance. As fresh supplies of these are due shortly it is improbable that they will go up much more; at the same time no fresh orders are going forward, prices being prohibitive. In Manchester goods the relative cheapness of 8.4 lbs. Shirtings, compared with other makes, is becoming more and more apparent and is attracting the serious attention of the natives, who have commenced paying up, but it requires a deal yet to cover the replacing cost. These remarks can also be applied to the lower reeds of White Shirtings, the improvement shown in them during the week being welcome, but they are a long way too low. The heavier Shirtings have not exhibited very great activity, except in the Korean cloths, and in the medium makes of those an advance of fully a mace has been established. So many of these goods are being entered here for transhipment now the figures shown by the Customs Returns are very misleading. There appears to be quite a little excitement over the Newchwang market at present, and supplies are going up more freely. Tientsin is quietly looking on, but must come in very soon. Deliveries all round are very satisfactory.

Metals.—(From Mr. Alex. Biefeld's report.)—13th September.—Metals have been neglected during the week. Pig Iron has risen sharply at home. I'dcar No. 3 is now quoted by importers at Tls. 24 for cable purchases and No. 4 cannot be done under Tls. 23 per ton. Nailrods do not attract attention, there being about 3,000 tons in stock and some 6,000 contracted for "to arrive." The Tinsplate market at home remains steady and should induce an upward movement have shortly. Copper and Yellow Metal are not sought after, the ruling higher prices at home keeping back orders. Offers for Iron Wire have been referred back from the other side for higher figures. A sale of 50 tons Old Cart Tyres is reported at 61/6, c.i.f., and 100 Scrap Iron at 64/ c.i.f. guaranteed weight.

TUESDAY, 17th September.
CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.74
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.80
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.22
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	53½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	194½
Bank, on demand	194½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	194½
Bank, on demand	194½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	par.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	3 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	½ % dis.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$9.01
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	47.40

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 17th September.—We have a further all round rise in rates to report, with the exception of mining stock, which has ruled dull with little or no business. The market has been active and the demand for shares has only been met by a gradual increase in rates. At time of closing buyers in most cases rule the market, holders being unwilling to part with stock even at the advanced rates recorded below.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have changed hands in small lots at 183 per cent. prem. cash and at 184 per cent. prem. for 30th inst.; market closes steady at these rates. Other Bank stock continues neglected, with no business to report.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have found further buyers at \$180, and close steady at that rate. China Traders, after sales at \$77 and \$78, were negotiated at \$80, although several small lots were on offer at \$78 and \$79; at time of writing sellers at \$79 rule the market. North Chinas and Yangtszes have further improved their position to Tls. 207½ and \$109 respectively, after sales at Tls. 206 and \$107½. Straits have improved to \$24 after sales at \$22½ and \$23, closing with sellers at \$24. In Cantons we have no business to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires have been in steady demand, resulting in sales at \$235, \$237½, \$240, \$243, \$245, and later at \$247½, market closing firm at latter rate. China Fires have been enquired for at \$87 without leading to business and close firm at that rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao ruled irregular in the early part of the week. A good many shares changed hands at \$35 and \$35½, later a fair number were negotiated at \$36 and \$36½, the market then going back again to \$36; at time of closing sales have been effected at \$36½, at which rate market closes with probable sellers. Douglas's have experienced another boom and the market has been excited, a large number of shares changing hands at a rapidly advancing rate until \$70 was reached, at which the advance appears to be checked, at any rate for the moment, although many holders expect to part at and are holding for \$80; the market closes with sellers at \$69. Indo-Chinas are enquired for at \$47 to \$47½, closing firm. We have nothing to report in other Shipping stock.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed hands at \$102 and \$103, closing nominally at \$104. Luzons have continued in demand, and after further sales at \$56 could probably be placed at a point or two higher if shares were forthcoming.

MINING.—Punjoms have receded to \$5.75, and all other Mining stock closes weak at quotations, with little or no business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks ruled rather weaker in the early part of the week, and sales were effected at as low as 121 per cent. prem.; later, however, a small demand setting in the rate quickly recovered to 123 per cent. prem., with sales at 122, and at that rate market closes steady with an upward tendency. Kowloon Wharfs have found further buyers at \$47, and Wanchai Warehouses have changed hands at \$42½.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDING.—Hongkong Lands have continued in demand with sales at \$66 cash and at \$67½ for 31st October; further shares could be placed at \$66, but none are available under \$67. Hongkong Hotels could be placed at \$9, but holders refuse to part. West Points are enquired for at \$18, but no shares are obtainable at anything near that figure.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been in strong demand and the rate has advanced to \$16, with little or no business between that and \$12. Watsons have continued to be enquired for, the enquiry resulting in sales at the advanced rates of \$11, \$11½, \$12, and \$12½, at which latter the market closes steady. Electrics have improved their position to \$6½, after sales at \$6 and \$6½. Ices, with a continual enquiry, have advanced to \$96, with sales and more buyers at the rate.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	183 p. ct. prem., [buyers]
China & Japan, prf.	—	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	nominal
Natl. Bank of China	—	—
B. Shares	£3	\$25½
Foun. Shares	£1	\$26½
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	\$10
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$3, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$2, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$104
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	10 p. ct. prem.
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$8, sales & buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$21, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement	\$50	\$16, sales & sellers
H. Brick and Cement	\$12½	\$16, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$110
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$6½, sales & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$90, sales
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$9, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$96, sales & buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$47, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$125	123 p. ct. prem., [sales & buyers]
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$180, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$87, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$79, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$247½, sales
North-China	£25	Tls. 207½, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$24, sales & sellers
Union	\$25	\$180, sales
Yangtsze	\$60	\$109, buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$66, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$15, sales
West Point Building	\$40	\$18½
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$56, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$115, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$3, sales
New Balmoral	\$3	\$4, sales & sellers
Punjom	\$3½	\$5.75, sellers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$1.50
Raub	13s. 10d.	\$4, sales & sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$62½
China Shippers	£5	\$2.11.6
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$69, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$20	\$36½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$47½, sales & buyers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$42½, sales
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12½, sales

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 18th September.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash sales have been made at 184 and 185 per cent. premium, the latter being the closing rate. On time, shares have been sold for delivery on 15th October at 187 and for 30th November at 190 per cent. premium. The London quotation is £42. The rate in Hongkong is 183 per cent. premium. There is no business reported in other Bank

stocks. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been placed at Tls. 35, and are offering at the same rate. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares have been placed locally at \$35, and to Hongkong at \$35 and \$35½, and are wanted. Docks.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. have been sold at Tls. 160 to Tls. 162½. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock shares are quoted 114 per cent. premium in Hongkong. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' shares have changed hands at \$75, and were placed to Hongkong at \$77. North-Chinas were sold at Tls. 210, and are wanted. Yangtszes were placed at \$103 and \$105, and Straits at \$22. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs have changed hands at \$232½, and Chinas have been placed at \$86 for the 30th current, and the same rate for cash. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been sold at Tls. 305 and 310, and Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf shares have been sold to Hongkong at \$45. Mining.—Punjom Mining shares have risen, in Hongkong to \$5.50. There is no change to report in Cargo Boat shares. Miscellaneous.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed at Tls. 33, and are offering. China Sugar Refining shares were purchased at \$103, and Luzon Sugar Refining shares at \$50, from Hongkong. Hall & Holtz shares changed hands at \$20, and Shanghai Land Investment shares at Tls. 39. Major Brothers shares were sold, and are wanted, at Tls. 26. In Tobacco shares, Sumatras were placed at Tls. 120, and Langkats at Tls. 225 and Tls. 227½. Shanghai Ice shares were sold at Tls. 117½, and shares in A. S. Watson & Co. were sold to Hongkong at \$10½. A number of Ewo Spinning & Weaving shares, with Tls. 25 paid up, were sold at Tls. 20. Hongkong Land Investment shares are quoted \$66 in Hongkong. Loans.—Chinese E Loan Bonds were sold at Tls. 275, plus the accrued interest. The final instalment of the China Merchants' Debenture Loan was paid on the 31st ultimo, and we remove it from our list. Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—185 per cent. prem.

Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited.—Nominal.

Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, Founders.—Nominal.

National Bank of China, Ltd., A.—\$26½.

National Bank of China, Ltd., B.—\$26½.

National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$26½.

Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 140 per sh.

Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 35 per sh.

China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co.—Tls. 50 per sh.

Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70 per sh.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$35 per share.

Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$54 per share.

Royd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300 per share.

Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 165 per share.

S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 162½ per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—114 per cent. premium.

China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$76 per sh.

North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 210 p. sh.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$185 per share.

Yangtsze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$105 per share.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$180 per share.

Straits Insurance Co., Limited.—\$22 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—232½ per sh.

China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$86 per share.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 310 per share.

Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 50 per share.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$44½ per share.

Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 4 per share.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$5½ per share.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares—\$1.40 per share.

Jebeu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$3.60 p. sh.

Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$4 per share.

Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 157½ per sh.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 138 per sh.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 211 per share.

Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$5.85 per share.

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 177½ p. sh.

Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 33 p. sh.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$103 per sh.

Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$50 per share.

Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$20 per share.

Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Tls. 65 per share.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$85 per share.

J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$25 per share.

Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 40 p. sh.

Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 26 per share.

Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 120 p. sh.
 Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 227½
 per share.
 Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founder's
 —Nominal.
 Shanghai Ice Company—Tls. 117½ per share.
 A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$104 per share.
 Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—21.
 Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$9.50.
 Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 20.
 International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 25.
 China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company
 Debentures.—Nominal.
 Lyceum Theatre Debentures.—Tls. 12.
 Chinese Imp. Gov. Loan, 1886, E.—Tls. 275 (a).
 Shanghai Municipal Debentures.—Nominal.
 Shanghai Land Investment Company Deben-
 tures.—Tls. 100 (a).
 Shanghai Land Investment Company Deben-
 tures.—Tls. 105 (a).
 (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 13th September (from Messrs. Whee-
 lock & Co.'s report).—Since last writing nothing has
 occurred to alter the state of our homeward freight
 market, but elsewhere opposition to the Conference
 has crept in and resulted in a heavy fall in rates to
 New York, as low as 25s. being accepted in Hong-
 kong for through freight from Amoy, at which rate
 the Conference steamer was obliged to take cargo at
 the latter port. Rates of freight are:—From Shang-
 hai to London by Conference Lines, general cargo
 40s., waste silk 45s., tea 50s.; Northern Continent
 ports 42s. 6d., waste silk 45s., tea 50s.; New
 York 50s., tea 45s.; New York via London 50s., tea
 50s.; Boston 52s. 6d.; Philadelphia 60s. Above
 rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Confer-
 ence circular.—London by Shell Line, general cargo
 40s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg 35s. net; New York
 50s. less 10 per cent.; Havre direct general cargo
 37s. 6d. net; Genoa tallow 35s., general cargo 40s.
 net; Marseilles tallow 35s., general cargo 37s. 6d.
 net. 45s. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports.—
 New York by sail 21s. and Pacific Lines, tea 1½ cent
 gold. Coast rates are:—Chinkiang to Canton 17
 candareens; Moji to Shanghai \$1 per ton coal no-
 minal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Oolong (str.), Manila (str.), Glen-
 orchy (str.), Khedive (str.).
 For LONDON and ANTWERP.—Garmarthenshire
 (str.).
 For VANGUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).
 For SAN FRANCISCO.—Lyndhurst, Belgic (str.).
 For NEW YORK.—P. N. Blanchard, Adam W.
 Spies, Sam Skolfield, Wandering Jew, Engelhorn.
 For BALTIMORE.—Fred. P. Litchfield.
 For AUSTRALIA.—Tsinan (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST
MAIL.

HONGKONG.

September—
 ARRIVALS.
 12, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.
 12, Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.
 12, Canton, British str., from Shanghai.
 12, Esang, British str., from Canton.
 12, Bellona, German str., from Kobe.
 12, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 12, Memnon, British str., from Sandakan.
 12, Benvenue, British str., from Saigon.
 12, Maria Teresa, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 13, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
 13, Utan, Japanese str., from Singapore.
 13, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 13, Nestor, British str., from Amoy.
 13, Ashdown, British str., from Moji.
 13, Pingsuey, British str., from Liverpool.
 13, Lyderhorn, Norw. str., from Kutchinotzu.
 13, Meifoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 13, Moldava, British str., from Canton.
 13, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 13, Cheang Hock Kian, Brit. str., from S'pore.
 13, Cambusdoon, British bark, from Penarth.
 13, Taichow, British str., from Bangkok.
 14, Toonan, Chinese str., from Canton.
 14, Kutsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 14, Glaucus, British str., from Liverpool.
 14, Kweiyang, British str., from Newchwang.
 14, Victoria, British str., from Tacoma.
 14, Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
 14, Monmouthshire, British str., for London.
 14, Decima, German str., from Moji.
 14, Leeyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 14, Namyong, British str., from Singapore.
 14, Oldenburg, German str., from Shanghai.

15, Amigo, German str., from Newchwang.
 15, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Manila.
 15, Canton, British str., from Canton.
 15, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 16, Victoria, Swedish str., from Newchwang.
 16, Framnes, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
 16, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
 16, Volute, British str., from Singapore.
 16, Deuteros, German str., from Saigon.
 16, Hohenzollern, Ger. str., from Nagasaki.
 16, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 16, China, German str., from Saigon.
 17, Activ, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
 17, Myrmidon, British str., from Shanghai.
 17, Sydney, French str., from Shanghai.
 17, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
 17, Meifoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
 17, Fuping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 17, Oceanien, French str., from Marseilles.
 17, Empr. of Japan, Brit. str., from V'conver.
 17, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 17, Wandering Jew, Amr. ship, from Anjer.
 17, Hong Leong, British str., from Singapore.
 17, Shantung, British str., from Java.
 17, Tsinan, British str., from Foochow.
 17, Chingping, Chinese str., from Chefoo.

September— DEPARTURES.

12, Fram, Norwegian str., for Samarang.
 12, Adelante, Spanish str., for Manila.
 12, Progress, German str., for Hoihow.
 12, Fuping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 12, Oskarsholm, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 12, Bengal, British str., for Europe.
 12, Conch, British str., for Nagasaki.
 12, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 12, Ulloa, Spanish gunboat, for Manila.
 13, Changsha, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 13, Canton, British str., for Canton.
 13, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 13, Bengloe, British str., for Yokohama.
 13, Diomed, British str., for London.
 14, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 14, Moldava, British str., for Singapore.
 14, Maria Teresa, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 14, Meifoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 14, E-Sang, British str., for Swatow.
 14, Verona, British str., for Singapore.
 14, Cheang Hock Kian, British str., for Amoy.
 14, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 14, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 14, Nestor, British str., for London.
 14, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., for Bangkok.
 14, Pingsuey, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Siam, British str., for Kobe.
 14, Toonan, Chinese str., for Ningpo.
 14, Utan, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
 15, Bellona, German str., for Hamburg.
 15, Glaucus, British str., for Amoy.
 15, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 15, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
 15, Idzumi Maru, Jap. str., for Ujina.
 15, Leeyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 15, Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.
 16, Namyong, British str., for Amoy.
 17, Ashdown, British str., for Manila.
 17, Lyderhorn, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 17, Redbreast, British g-bt., for Singapore.
 17, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
 17, Oceanien, French str., for Shanghai.
 17, Memnon, British str., for Kudat.
 17, Oldenburg, German str., for Europe.
 17, Tigris, British str., for Singapore.
 17, Victoria, Swedish str., for Canton.

SHANGHAI.

September—
 ARRIVALS.
 7, Chuentiao, Chinese r.-c., from a cruise.
 7, Empr. of India, British str., from H'kong.
 7, Oolong, British str., from Nagasaki.
 8, Hangchow, British str., from Swatow.
 8, Taksang, British str., from Foochow.
 8, Choysang, British str., from Hongkong.
 8, Leeyuen, Chinese str., from Hongkong.
 8, Nanjang, German str., from Hongkong.
 8, Myrmidon, British str., from Japan.
 8, Normandie, Norw. str., from Japan.
 8, Cass, Chinese str., from Canton.
 8, Melbourne, French str., from Hongkong.
 9, No. 558, German torpedo-bt., from Elbing.
 9, No. 559, German torpedo-bt., from Elbing.
 9, Hunan, British str., from Hongkong.
 10, Hsinchi, Chinese str., from Tongku.
 10, Daphne, German str., from Yokohama.
 10, El Dorado, British str., from Tientsin.
 10, Feiching, British str., from Tongku.
 10, Ariel, Norw. str., from Hongkong.

10, Lucia, British bark, from Nagasaki.
 10, Glenorchy, British str., from Nagasaki.
 11, Wuchang, British str., from Taku.
 11, Wenchow, British str., from Amoy.
 11, Hsinyu, Chinese str., from Tongku.
 11, Tungchow, British str., from Chefoo.
 11, Kashing, British str., from Hongkong.
 11, Haeting, Chinese str., from Nanking.
 11, Fungshun, Chinese str., from Nanking.
 11, Jinsen Maru, Japanese str., from Ujina.

September— DEPARTURES.

7, Taiyick, German str., for Chefoo.
 7, Bengal, British str., for Hongkong.
 7, Clara, German str., for Moji.
 7, Walter Siegfried, British bk., for Foochow.
 7, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Hongkong.
 7, Haean, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
 7, Jens Meinich, Norw. str., for N'chwang.
 7, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Hongkong.
 8, Chusan, German str., for Tientsin.
 8, Chungking, British str., for Chefoo.
 8, Canton, British str., for Swatow.
 8, Bjorg, Norw. str., for Kobe.
 8, Glenshiel, British str., for Japan.
 8, Pechili, British str., for Chefoo.
 8, Chefoo, British str., for Newchwang.
 8, Ran, Norw. str., for Nagasaki.
 8, Yungping, Chinese str., for Tientsin.
 8, Empr. of India, British str., for Vconver.
 8, Evandale, British str., for Hongkong.
 8, Haean Chinese str., for Chefoo.
 8, Meifoo, Chinese str., for Amoy.
 8, Shengking, British str., for Chefoo.
 9, Progress, Norw. str., for Newchwang.
 10, Nanyang, German str., for Chinkiang.
 10, Chintung, Chinese str., for Chefoo.
 10, Signan, British str., for Amoy.
 10, Port Phillip, British str., for Japan.
 10, Chuentiao, Chinese r.-c., for a cruise.
 10, Krim, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
 11, Leeyuen, Chinese str., for Hongkong.
 11, Taksang, British str., for Chefoo.
 11, Hsinchi, Chinese str., for Tientsin.
 11, Comet, Nicar. bark, for Chefoo.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Changsha, steamer, from Sydney, &c.—
 Messrs. Hardcastle, Holmes and Sims.
 Per Namoa, str., from Coast Ports.—Messrs.
 P. Barlow, E. Bailey, and J. Foche, and 150
 Chinese.
 Per Kutsang, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Mr.
 F. J. Porter, and 386 Chinese.
 Per Victoria, str., from Tacoma, Wash.—Miss
 M. Halliman, and Lieut. Adams, A.M.D.
 Per Loo Sok, steamer, from Bangkok, &c.—
 Messrs. J. Harker, and J. Friday.
 Per Monmouthshire, str., from London.—Dr.
 and Mrs. Clarke and child, and Mr. Gommere,
 and 114 Chinese from Singapore.
 Per Namyong, str., from Singapore.—Capt.
 A. Casey.
 Per Hanoi, str., from Haiphong, &c.—Mr. and
 Mrs. Holterman, Mr. and Mrs. Hauser.
 Per Oldenburg, str., from Shanghai.—Count
 and Countess Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Ewing,
 Messrs. Baddely, G. Williams, and Wilgaard.
 Per Bygdo, str., from Manila.—Mr. Beardslee
 (American Consul for Manila), Messrs. Howitz
 and Kirchhoff.
 Per Framnes, from Bangkok.—Mr. Moller.
 Per Zafiro, str., from Manila.—Mr. Charles
 Stuart Nicholson.
 Per Hohenzollern, str., from Yokohama, &c.—
 Mr. and Mrs. Cordes, Mr. and Mrs. Siwirakoff,
 Messrs. Erich Georg, Mylins, C. Gatti, Mac-
 knight, Braunschweig, Aitken, Tache, Moss,
 Frank Lammert, G. Howard, Peter Carasin, and
 Potsoroff.

DEPARTED.

Per Bengal, str., from Hongkong for Singa-
 pore.—Mr. B. B. Deane. For London.—Mr.
 Wm. J. Hubbard, R.N., and Fitter E. Barber.
 R.E. From Kobe for London.—Mrs. J. A.
 Greig and child. From Shanghai for Penang.
 —Messrs. Adam Stuart and Mar Sin Wa. For
 London via Marseilles.—Capt. J. P. McEwan,
 R.N. For London.—Capt. C. Cameron, Miss
 Bennett, and Mr. J. S. Sefton.
 Per Pingsuey, str., for Shanghai.—Mr. Brown.
 Per Verona, str., for Singapore.—Mr. R. Pelle.
 Per Maria Teresa, str., for Shanghai.—Mr. E.
 Einagl.
 Per Siam, str., for Nagasaki.—Capt. J. T.
 Sterling, A.D.C. For Kobe.—Mr. and Mrs.
 Chas. Young.